

## Will the Supreme Court uphold tax equality victory?

### In this issue:

- The fight for tax equality has one final stop
- CTF's Municipal Roadway Trust gains ground
- More misfires at the gun registry
- Tax Freedom Day



# From the editor

Troy Lanigan is the CTF's  
National Communications Director  
tlanigan@taxpayer.com



## We won

As this issue's cover illustrates, the Federal Court of Appeal has overturned the trial decision in *Benoit v. Canada*.

In March of 2002, trial judge Douglas Campbell declared that descendants of Treaty 8 Indians (covering northern Alberta, BC, Saskatchewan and the NWT) do not have to pay any tax at any time for any reason. Even though Justice Campbell himself found that treaty negotiators did not promise the Indians a tax exemption in 1899, he nevertheless ruled in their favour on the grounds that the Indians believed that such a promise was made and the federal government must accept responsibility for this misunderstanding.

Even federal government lawyers warned that the decision would "impact federal revenues, create an administrative nightmare for business, and open the door to extensive manipulation, market distortion and smuggling."

Your support enabled the CTF to intervene in this case to argue that a race-based tax exemption would violate equality provisions of the Charter, numerous international treaties and conventions against racism, and basic principles

of fairness.

For years your CTF has fought for lower taxes to spur economic growth and create prosperity for all. But the CTF opposes tax reductions or exemptions applied only to one group, at the expense of everyone else. Income – not race or ancestry – is the only valid basis for a tax exemption.

Your CTF stepped up to the plate in this case, because politicians would not. Politicians have consistently abdicated their

**“This battle is not over. Gordon Benoit and leaders of the Treaty Eight Indian Bands vow to take this fight to the Supreme Court of Canada. With your continued support the argument for taxpayer equality will be there as well!”**

responsibility on aboriginal issues, taking cover behind the robes of unelected judges, all the while bilking taxpayers for millions in legal fees.

Unfortunately, this battle is not over. Gordon Benoit and leaders of the Treaty Eight Indian Bands vow to take this fight to the Supreme Court of Canada. With your continued support the argument for

taxpayer equality will be there as well!

□□□

If you liked Jean Chretien, you'll love Paul Martin. As this issue was going to print Mr. Martin declared in a *National Post* interview "when I become Prime Minister, then I will make my views known on ... issues"

The arrogance of our one-party state in Canada is breathtaking. It harkens back to the former Soviet Union. You can imagine

Leonid Brezhnev being quoted in *Pravda* back in 1964 on where he wants to take the Soviet Union after succeeding Khrushchev.

Here's changing a few terms in Mr. Martin's interview:

"I'm not going to make a series of commitments about issues that have ... had extensive [Politburo] discussion ... If what you're going to do is ask me a series of questions about what would I do if I were [General Secretary], I've made it very clear that I am going to be supportive of the [Politburo] ... when I become [General Secretary], then I will make my views known on ... issues."



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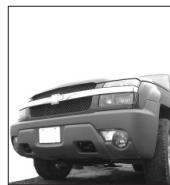
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For more information or to contact the CTF:

Sask./Admin:  
#105 - 438  
Victoria Ave. E.  
Regina, SK  
S4N 0N7  
(306) 352-7199

BC/CAPC:  
#604-1207  
Douglas St.,  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 2E7  
(250) 388-3660

Alberta:  
#410 - 9707 -  
110th St.,  
Edmonton, AB  
T5K 2L9  
(780) 448-0159

Manitoba:  
#212 - 428  
Portage Ave,  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3C 0E2  
(204) 982-2150

Ontario:  
PO Box 60  
31 Adelaide St E,  
Toronto, ON  
M5C 2H8  
(416) 203-0030

Federal:  
#512 - 130  
Albert St.,  
Ottawa, ON  
K1P 5G4  
(613) 234-6554

Web site:  
[www.taxpayer.com](http://www.taxpayer.com)

E-mail:  
[admin@taxpayer.com](mailto:admin@taxpayer.com)

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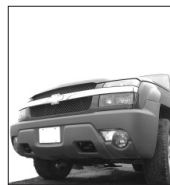
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(306) 352-7199

BC/CAPC:  
#604-1207  
Douglas St.,  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 2E7  
(250) 388-3660

Alberta:  
#410 - 9707 -  
110th St.,  
Edmonton, AB  
T5K 2L9  
(780) 448-0159

Manitoba:  
#212 - 428  
Portage Ave,  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3C 0E2  
(204) 982-2150

Ontario:  
PO Box 60  
31 Adelaide St E,  
Toronto, ON  
M5C 2H8  
(416) 203-0030

Federal:  
#512 - 130  
Albert St.,  
Ottawa, ON  
K1P 5G4  
(613) 234-6554

Web site:  
[www.taxpayer.com](http://www.taxpayer.com)

E-mail:  
[admin@taxpayer.com](mailto:admin@taxpayer.com)



# Letters-to-the-editor



I read the May-June issue of The Taxpayer as soon as I got it, and the more I read, the angrier I got. Why are these thieves not in jail? If anyone else spent someone else's property like Ottawa spends **our** tax dollars they would be imprisoned. This insanity cannot continue without our country going bankrupt. Keep up the pressure. I sometimes think you are more effective than our Opposition.

*Sam Herman  
Lloydminster, AB*

## Radwanski

Just wanted to thank you for your great work keeping Radwanski in the hot seat. Hopefully this will hit Canadians close enough to home to have them not forget in two weeks ... we'll see. [Walter Robinson] has won my favourite quote award: "two weeks severance and don't let the door hit you on the way out" (CTV National News). As always, great job!

*Grant R. Poulsen  
Ottawa, ON*

I hope the CTF is planning to turn Radwanski into the poster boy for "Fat City". The arrogance, greed and sheer venality of his actions are breath-taking.

The money that is wasted by Ottawa politicians and bureaucrats is simply incomprehensible: [consider] extravagant spending of public money on travel of dubious value or alleged "business" meals.

I hope the CTF will dig deeply into the expense accounts of senior unelected officials and make public what you find. It may well be that many such individuals are prudent in their travel and spending habits and, if so, they deserve to be singled out for praise. On the other hand, those who are found to be seriously abusing the public purse ought to be publicly identified and, where appropriate, both fired and prosecuted.

## Letters-to-the-editor

Letters may be edited for length and content. Send them to:

*The Taxpayer*  
105-438 Victoria Ave. E.,  
Regina, SK S4N 0N7

E-mail:  
[tlanigan@taxpayer.com](mailto:tlanigan@taxpayer.com)

As each year passes, the stink of corruption grows stronger over Ottawa. The CTF has been at the forefront of pressing for change. I look forward to following your continuing efforts.

*David Marley  
West Vancouver, BC*

## Ottawa Tax Revolt

I emailed the city quite a bit during the recent tax hike debate. I have never been politically active before. Always voted but never personally involved. I believe that has changed. If there is anything I can do in the future please feel free to contact me.

I have consulted the CTF site and will be joining. I thank you for your ongoing efforts to promote sanity at the most basic fiscal level.

*D. Wallwork  
Ottawa, ON*

## Treaty 8 Court Victory

Good work CTF! We must keep up the pressure. It does have an impact. I'm a big supporter and work to promote the CTF at every opportunity. Thanks again.

*Bill Berven  
Calgary, AB*

Thank you so much for representing me in

# Letters-to-the-editor

Benoit vs Canada. I am proud to be a member and will continue to support you. It is great to know that we have an organisation such as yours to represent the silent majority. Way to go, keep up the good work.

*Rob Leslie  
Okotoks, AB*

Congrats on leading the fight for fair taxes. To make a decision based on what a group believed, no matter if wrong, is unbelievable. The grounds of appeal will be interesting. Lawyers fees mean nothing to these groups.

I also commend your comments on the privacy commissioner's overspending. To think that pure abuse can be accepted as normal business is unacceptable.

Keep on the front line! Maybe there will be change if enough of us let the politicians know that we want our money managed, not wasted.

*Don McKay  
Surrey, BC*

I am very impressed by your accomplishments. Thanks for working for the majority of taxpayers.

*Pat Morton  
Quesnel, BC*

Good for you CTF. It was a remarkable decision for all Canadians. Tax equality, that is all

we would like to see. Thank you.

*H. Jenkins  
Humbolt, SK*

I appreciate that we gained some ground, and you folks are to be congratulated for your hard work. I wonder though if it is advisable to make the victory so obvious. This is not a contest and I don't think we want the government to view it as such. We would be well served to stay on their good side by congratulating [the federal government] on their common sense assessment of the issues rather than making them appear to be losers.

*Bruce Walker  
Winnipeg, MB*

## Keep up the fight

You have a mammoth job, and how long it will take to unravel the mess that these Liberals have wrought on this country, is anyone's guess!

Thank you for looking out for the interests of the Canadian public, who do not deserve the treatment Chretien and his crowd of buffoons have handed out for so long!

*Greg B. Miller  
Vancouver, BC*

Thanks for taking a stand against the taxpayer funded "free" Rolling

Stones concert. We need more people like you. Where does the government have \$10 million to spend on a party? If this is money left over from other taxes then it should be returned to the people it was taken from, not spent on a rock concert. The federal government must return to its mandate. Thanks again and please keep up the pressure.

*Rob Hozack  
Medicine Hat, AB*

## Likes Klein

I find the CTF too radical. I supported its views at one time, but no more, at least with regard to the Alberta government. Ralph Klein has almost blown out the deficit, and has reduced taxes significantly. He is a good listener and isn't afraid to admit his mistakes, unlike most politicians. He has given us the best government of any leader in Canada in many years. In spite of being just a newspaper reporter, he has done far better than all [other] governments ...

You should be spending your money and efforts federally. Alberta is doing just fine thank you.

*Ron Shannon  
Calgary, AB*



# Waste Watch

## Vive l' Alberta

Last year, Ottawa gave out \$8.3 million to help various groups mark celebrations. The money is forked over through Celebrate Canada, a program handled by Sheila Copps' Canadian Heritage. Under the program, Ottawa provides financial assistance to associations and groups wanting to participate in any of the following events: Canada Day (July 1st), Canadian Multiculturalism Day (June 27), Aboriginal Day (June 21) and Saint Jean Baptiste Day (Quebec's nationalist holiday June 24).

A recent Access to Information request revealed that in 2002, Quebec groups received over 60% of the funding, which translates into \$5.15 million in grants and contributions.

That same year, the province of Ontario with 40% of the country's population, received 10% of the funding or \$854,000. The Atlantic provinces each garnered \$755,000, while Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the NWT and Nunavut each got \$604,000. The big losers were BC which received

\$474,000 and Alberta which received a paltry \$353,000.

But the story does not stop there because despite their share being far less than Quebec's, some of the money dedicated to these other provinces actually found its way

to celebrate Saint Jean Baptiste Day. Go figure.

With files from the *National Post*

## One man's art is another's...

The SAW Gallery — located in Ottawa — has taken contemporary art to new heights of smelly delights. Others would suggest that modern art has finally come out of the closet for what it really is ... crap.

The SAW Gallery is putting on a five-week multi-media show displaying excrement. It will feature the work of 25 Canadian and international artists who will display crap in a variety of "unique artistic forms." This includes, "anatomically detailed film grabs," to actual samples of ... well you get the idea.

It's not surprising to learn that the SAW Gallery would probably not exist without taxpayer funding. Over the last two years, it has received \$72,000 from the federal government and \$76,000 from the City of Ottawa.

With files from *Sun Media*



## Free at the dry cleaners

With a bit of research, the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) would have found out that most dry cleaners give away inexpensive clothes hangers to their customers. So why did NSERC spend \$520 to purchase 45 clothes hangers — about

**Looking good is priority number one!**

# Waste Watch

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\$11 each? Who knows?

The agency with a yearly budget of \$708 million hands out money for research grants. Certainly, some of this money could have funded a study entitled, "How to find cheap clothes hangers."

With files from the *Waste Report*

## Immigration woes

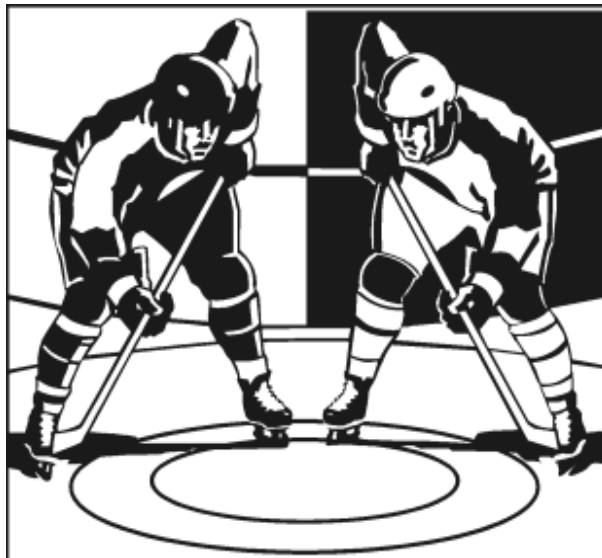
As long as they just murder police officers and soldiers, Marxist guerillas from Mexico will be welcomed into Canada with open arms. The Federal Court of Canada recently overturned a lower court decision which denied refugee status to Rogelio Cuevas Fuentes of Mexico because he was involved in terrorist activities. Fuentes was a member of the Popular Revolutionary Army that for decades has battled to overthrow the government of Mexico.

Despite widely publicized media reports that the Marxist PRA has killed civilians and utilized kidnappings and robberies in an effort to raise money, Justice Francois Lemieux ruled that these criminals are just misunderstood freedom fighters.

On related immigration matters:

- Ottawa revealed that immigrants and refugees have defaulted on \$1.7 million in loans the feds routinely provided them to help defray costs of plane tickets and x-rays. The money was written off for a variety reasons

**How do you  
spend \$111,000  
on a face off?**



such as refugees mysteriously disappearing or deciding to return home.

- In 2000 and 2001, Ottawa issued special visitation permits allowing hundreds of known criminals to enter Canada. According to Immigration officials these permits were thoroughly reviewed and issued on compassionate grounds. Of the 600 individuals allowed entry into Canada in 2001, 11 committed war crimes or crimes against humanity and an equal number were involved in "terrorism, espionage or subversion by force." One security expert stated that many of the individuals are here fundraising for their groups back home. We will never know for sure since Ottawa refuses to reveal the purpose of allowing these visits.
- The RCMP is pressing charges against two Quebec-based Immigration and Refugee Board judges accused of accepting bribes. According to the RCMP, a criminal gang paid the two judges upwards of \$12,000 to gain favourable rulings on behalf of their clients. One undercover policeman stated a bribe delayed a deportation hearing for five years.

The two judges could be facing prison terms of up to 14 years. The Quebec justice department is trying to have the two judges face less serious charges.

With files from the  
*National Post, CTV.ca*  
*News and Ottawa Citizen*



# Waste Watch

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## Looking good

The RCMP recently announced they will be adding four new members to the force in BC. According to Rob Creasser, Regional Chair of the BC Mounted Police Professional Association, the RCMP is in need of about 250 additional officers in that province.

So what exactly will these new additions be doing you ask? Apparently, the RCMP will add these positions to their dress and deportment department. That's right. Their job will be to make sure the RCMP look good.

There was a day when the RCMP slogan was "The Mounties always get their man," today, its "Looking good, feeling great, the RCMP way."

*With files from the CKNW Vancouver*

## Gun laundering

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) recently swooped in on Ellwood Epps Sporting Goods store in Orillia, Ontario to confiscate a rifle owned by the store's manager, Wes Winkel.

The rifle was apparently stolen in Que-

bec in 1992 and it, along with the rifle's serial number, was on the RCMP's list of stolen rifles.

Apparently, Ottawa's vaunted gun registry had caught this gun being registered and notified police.

Rumour has it that Ottawa bureaucrats are rounding up support to declare the auspicious occasion a national holiday -- it appeared that for the first time in its history the much maligned national gun registry had actually worked.

However, there was one nagging question: Why were the OPP officers laughing when they confiscated the rifle?

This was the fourth time the 'stolen rifle' had actually been registered at the gun registry, but only the first time it had been caught. Despite having the serial number of the stolen rifle, the guns dubious heritage had escaped the notice of the Firearms' registry on three previous occasions.

The rifle was sold to Ellwoods in May by an individual holding a legitimate firearms registration license.

When the store bought the rifle it had to register the rifle, which the manager did without any problems by simply phoning the Liberal gun registry.

But then the manager liked the rifle so much, he decided to buy it for himself and of course he had to again re-register the gun. Each time, the gun-registry declared the rifle to be a legal weapon allowing it to be sold, re-sold and resold.

It was only later that someone at the firearms centre finally figured out that they had registered this illegal weapon three times and immediately sent in

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**Cost of protection included \$1.8 million for petro**

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# Waste Watch

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the police to collect the offending weapon.

What is most disconcerting about this case is that the gun-registry — now approaching \$2 billion — failed to do the one thing that is supposed to do: confiscate illegal weapons.

In fact, it went one step further and actually legalized the weapon by providing three separate licenses.

When the mob tries to legitimize money gained through illegal means, it does so by transferring it through legitimate businesses. The police call this illegal activity money-laundering. Now we find out that the firearms centre is doing exactly the same thing with a stolen rifle.

*With files from the Edmonton Journal*

## Nothing to do, but not doing it for nothing

The City of Montreal has a department that city employees affectionately refer to as Club Med. It is the home of 517 employees who are still being paid by city taxpayers — but are should we say — between jobs.

According to a June 16th executive com-

mittee resolution, 517 of the city's 29,000 employees are classified as "available" for work, meaning their jobs have been cut due to a variety of reasons such as budget and technological changes.

Two hundred and seventy-two of this group have taken on "temporary responsibilities" filling in for sick leave, vacation time, etc.

But incredibly, the remaining 245 members of this elite group made up of 91 white collar workers, 50 professionals and 94 managers have absolutely nothing to do. They have no desk, no phone and no job.

But although they have nothing to do, they are not doing this for nothing. This group of non-working employees, who earn an average of \$81,000 each, costs Montreal taxpayers about \$20 million a year

When the news hit the proverbial fan, city administration promised to immediately address the problem. Did they order these 245 non-working employees to be immediately laid off? No, in typically bureaucratic fashion they ordered a "management plan" be developed to reduce the number. This included providing financial incentives

for departments to create new — obviously unneeded — positions for these unnecessary employees.

*With files from the Regina Leader Post*



## Thankfully, not made in Canada

When Jesse Taveras -- a 19-year old hair braider at a New

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**Feds hand out grants celebrating Canada Day and Quebec nationalism....**



# Waste Watch

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York city salon -- stepped outside his salon for a break, he made two mistakes. First, he sat on a milk crate. His second blunder that day involved timing. Another minute later and a passing police officer would not have seen him.

But the police officer did see him and slapped Taveras with a \$105 fine for sitting on a milk crate. When Taveras expressed bewilderment at what was happening, the police officer said don't blame me, blame Bloomberg.

Apparently, New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg is dusting off old obscure by-laws and using the money generated from the fines to reduce the city's massive debt. One of those statutes forbids the "unauthorized use of a milk crate."

*With files from the National Post*

## More feminist drivel

Radical feminists have struck again. And Ottawa has responded in the only way it knows how: by handing out tax dollars.

The latest instalment funds a report to the tune of \$75,000 which rails against the 'masculine backlash' against the feminist agenda. The report, titled School Success by Gender: A Catalyst for the Masculinist Discourse, claims that there is a secret agenda where 'masculinists' are blaming feminists for lowering boys' performance in schools, higher male suicide rates and a rash of laws discriminating against men in divorce and custody proceedings.

This taxpayer-subsidized report

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**Montreal taxpayers fork over \$20-million for city employees to do nothing**

calls for the creation of a Hate Watch agency where radical feminists would decide which groups are actively resisting their agenda and thereby classify them as hate groups.

*With files from the National Post*

## Buying protection

Security costs for the G-8 summit held in Kanaskis Alberta in June of last year have finally been tallied. The federal government spent \$192 million to protect leaders of the G8 attending the largely uneventful meeting.

Included in this was the RCMP bill for \$96.5 million and the Department of Foreign Affairs which figured it spent \$49.6 million.

The cash-strapped Department of Defence spent approximately \$46.5 million. Their contribution included 5,000 military personnel who patrolled the wilderness area surrounding the site of the meeting (approximately 4000 square kilometres). Another \$1.9 million was spent on reservist troops sent to complement the regular forces.

In addition, the Defence Department



# Waste Watch

dropped — pardon the pun — nearly \$13 million firing off 30 missiles as part of air defence training for the big event. The missiles came from a stockpile the Department purchased in 1980.

Defence spent another \$6.8 million on aviation related expenditures which included \$1.3 million on fuel for the jets patrolling the skies over the summit site.

With files from the *Edmonton Sun*

## Dropping the puck

When Queen Elizabeth, along with Wayne Gretsky, dropped the puck at a Vancouver Canucks hockey game last October, few in the roaring crowd had any idea that this event would ultimately cost BC taxpayers over \$111,000.

So how do governments spend this amount of money on what was little more than an 30-second photo opportunity? A recent Access to Information request asked for a complete breakdown of costs associated with this puck drop. Here is the highlight reel:

- \$21,000 to cater the Royal suite;
- \$11,000 to decorate the loading area with flowers;
- \$1,000 to put up new wallpaper in the loading area;
- \$9,000 to rent red carpet and

a tent;

- \$13,000 for media services; and
- \$7,800 on miscellaneous costs including ice cleats for camera crews.

With files from the *Leader Post* & *Canadian Press*

## If they didn't have a problem...

The Warkworth Medium Security Prison houses some of Canada's worst sexual deviants. It is the home of the Warkworth Sexual Behaviour Clinic that is supposed to be treating these offenders. Of the 700 inmates serving time, 70% are in for some type of sexual crime ranging from rape to paedophilia.

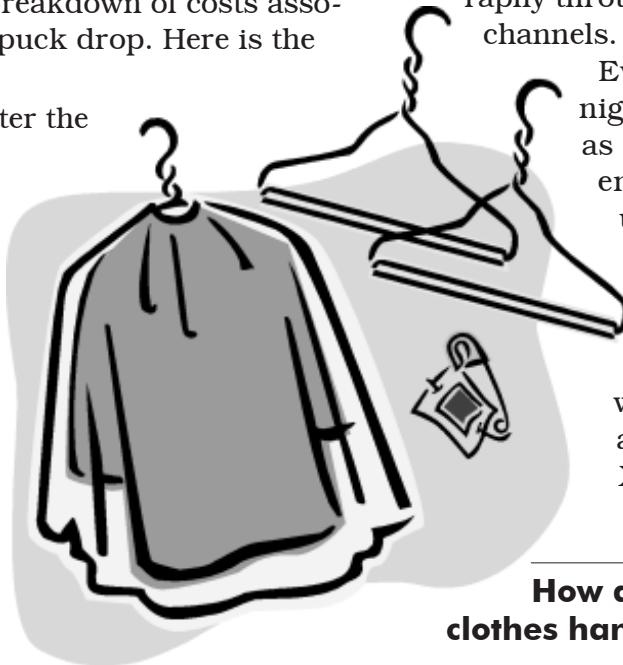
So what is Corrections Canada doing to reform these hardened criminals? Not much, if this story is any indication. In fact, it could be argued that Corrections Canada is exasperating the problem.

According to an inside source, cons at Warkworth can access hard core pornography through their satellite based TV channels.

Every Wednesday and Saturday night, triple-X rated movies such as Sex-Shop, Sexy Urban Legends and Yale Island Transsexuals find their way to Warkworth's viewing audience. Of course all this is paid for by Canadian taxpayers.

However, since this story was exposed, Corrections Canada has moved to cancel the X-rated shows.

With files from the *Sun Media*



**How do you spend \$11 on a clothes hanger?**



# Mystery and

*This year marks the 25th anniversary of the passage of California's Proposition 13. It was a historic citizen-led tax revolt using the initiative process -- something your CTF has long advocated. CTF supporters will remember Joel Fox, long-time president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association in California. Joel has spoken in Canada on several occasions and been an ally to taxpayer organizations throughout the world. In this issue of The Taxpayer, we're pleased to bring you an excerpt from Joel Fox's new book, The Legend of Proposition 13.*

A middle-aged woman travelled the 30 miles from her home in the San Fernando Valley to the Los Angeles County Hall of Administration to plead her case directly with County officials. It was the mid-1960s and the woman

had received her property tax bill from the County with a tax she could not possibly afford. Like many California residents of that time, she had shuddered with fear when opening her property tax bill.

The taxes had been escalating at an outrageous pace in recent years and many people could not make the payments required of them. The woman reasoned that if she could make her case directly to County officials they surely would reduce her taxes.

Accompanying her on the trip to downtown Los Angeles was Howard Jarvis, a retired businessman who had been on a crusade to reduce property taxes for five years.

The woman argued her case in vain. County officials told her that her taxes had been calculated properly and that according to law, the amount on the bill was what she had to pay. The shock and frustration proved too great for her. The woman had a heart attack in the County building and died.

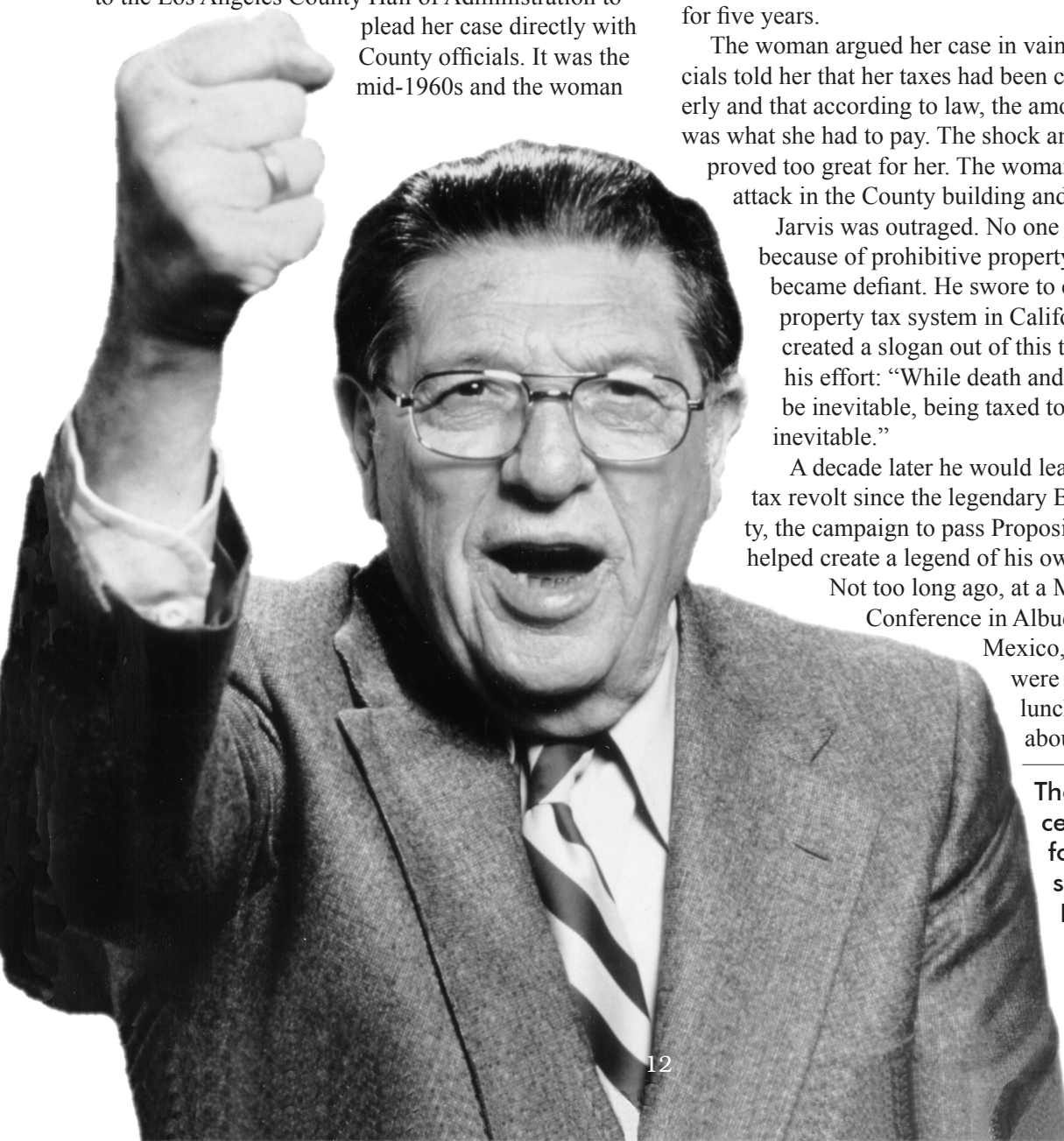
Jarvis was outraged. No one should die because of prohibitive property taxes. He became defiant. He swore to change the property tax system in California. And, he created a slogan out of this tragedy to lead his effort: "While death and taxes may be inevitable, being taxed to death is not inevitable."

A decade later he would lead the greatest tax revolt since the legendary Boston Tea Party, the campaign to pass Proposition 13, and he helped create a legend of his own.

Not too long ago, at a Mystery Writers Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, a dozen writers were sitting around a lunch table talking about politics. No

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Though deceased, Californians are still thanking Howard Jarvis for Prop 13 twenty-five years later.



# d Mystique

one remembered how the conversation had veered in that direction, but the suspicion was that one of the authors was considering using a politician as a villain in a story. The writers did not speak highly of politicians that day. In fact, the actions of the political class were being derided in the way Americans have derided them for centuries.

One writer, now of New Mexico, but formerly of California, concluded the conversation by saying, "There was only one law that ever really helped the ordinary guy. That Jarvis Proposition 13 when I lived in California."

It is not surprising twenty-five years after Proposition 13 passed to hear that sentiment expressed. Even now people remember how rising tax bills in California were threatening their home ownership. Children remember how their parents feared that they could not meet their property tax obligations and still have enough money to provide the necessities of life for their families. And they remember how Howard Jarvis led a tax revolt that kept alive their piece of the American Dream.

Republican California State Senator Tom McClintock said he still has a vivid memory of the "relief in my parents' eyes when Proposition 13 passed. There were serious discussions around the dinner table if we were going to hang onto the house given the huge escalation in property taxes. To my parents Howard Jarvis was a saint."

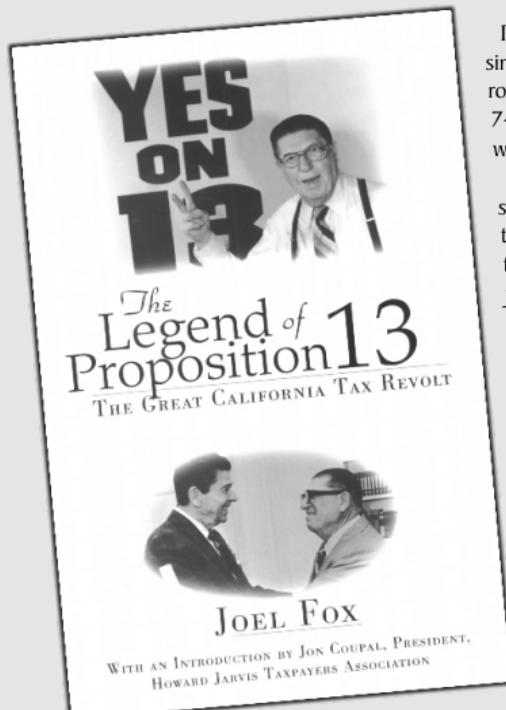
And, former Democratic State Senator and now chairman of the California Democratic Party, Art Torres, told a gathering in 1991 that he realized that he was wrong about opposing Proposition 13. He since had seen how it helped seniors in his neighborhood and even young families starting out to get a home.

Recently, at a television show I appeared on, the producer insisted on walking me out to the parking lot to take the opportunity and thank me as a representative of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association for saving her home. That "saving" was almost twenty-five years ago but it was something she could not forget.

However, not everyone sees Proposition 13 in the same light. When the interstate highway collapsed during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake in the San Francisco Bay Area, an editorial cartoon in the Los Angeles Times showed a car crushed by a freeway, and

## Proving you are never too old to change the world

Read the fascinating account of how a 74-year old man defeated California's political establishment.



Proposition 13 was the greatest tax revolt in history since the Boston Tea Party. In June 1978, Californians rose up behind a colourful, irascible, unlikely leader, 74-year-old Howard Jarvis, and turned the political world upside down.

Told by Joel Fox, a Proposition 13 insider, this is the story of the politics, odd tales and bizarre arguments that surround the fabled tax revolt from its success at the polls to its survival despite constant attacks 25 years later. It is the story of a legend in the making.

Joel Fox served as president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association for twelve years following seven years as Jarvis' senior aide.

**\$31.00**

Plus shipping and handling

\* 20% off for CTF supporters

Please use the order form located on the back cover of *The Taxpayer*

the license plate of the car read: Prop 13.

When 12-year old Polly Klass was abducted from her home in Petaluma, California north of San Francisco, and brutally murdered, Proposition 13 was judged culpable by national columnist and noted author Richard Reeves in a *Money* magazine article. Reeves wrote that the killer might have been apprehended before the murder took place if only the police had the advanced communication equipment surely denied them by the Proposition 13 tax cuts.

How absurd can the claims get? Try this one. In his TRB column in the *New Republic* of October 23, 1995, Robert Wright listed his reasons that the O.J. Simpson criminal trial ended without a conviction. His number one reason — Howard Jarvis and Proposition 13!

Wright argued that because Proposition 13 cut taxes, the City and County of Los Angeles had inadequate funds to hire a competent coroner and competent police officials — and, basically, you get what you pay for. The problem with his theory is that it's wrong. At that time, on every rung of the ladder from rookie cop on up, the Los Angeles Police Department paid higher salaries than the police departments in the other two largest cities in the country, New York and Chicago.

... For many politicians, bureaucrats and members of the media who don't trust the people taking political power into their own hands, Proposition 13 has been and continues to be the scapegoat for all the ills that

### What Proposition 13 Did

... Proposition 13 changed the tax laws of California. It reduced property taxes on homes, businesses, farms and other property by about 57% or a total of about \$7-billion. Under Proposition 13, now a part of the State Constitution, property tax rates could not exceed 1 percent of the property's market value and, absent a sale or major remodeling, market value increases were capped at a maximum of 2% per year. In addition to capping property taxes, Proposition 13 required that all state tax rate increases be approved by a two-thirds vote of the legislature and that local special tax increases had to be approved by a two-thirds vote of the people.



befall California.

... Unfortunately, children have been murdered, bridges have collapsed, and public services have stalled in other states over the same time period, but these states did not have a tax cut initiative like Proposition 13. New York librarians began a misery index to record library closures. Could Proposition 13 have caused this problem all the way across the country?

... Proposition 13 has been successful at what it promised to do. It prevented people from being taxed out of their homes and, for the first time, it gave property owners a measure of certainty over their taxes.

In the early 1800s, U. S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall wrote that the only protection the people had against unwise and excessive taxation was the wisdom and justice of the legislative body. That protection proved as worthless as your typical political campaign promise.

In California, voters found they had to protect themselves from unwise and excessive taxation and they had the means to do it with the initiative process.

The initiative process allows people to write their own laws. After enough signatures are gathered to qualify a measure for the ballot, it is given a number. The property tax measure submitted by Howard Jarvis for the June 1978 California primary

election ballot got the number that would later add to its mystique: 13.

And, 25 years after it became law the discussion of its merits still is hot. ■



# More Kyoto Krazyness

By Bruce Winchester

**Despite one of the coldest winters in recent memory, Ottawa's plans to implement the Kyoto Protocol on so-called global warming continue at full tilt.**

Last year the Chretien government said ratify Kyoto now, and figure out the costs later. And while Canadian taxpayers still await a full accounting, little bits and pieces of information are flowing out of officialdom in Ottawa. Here is a quick review of a few plans underway to coerce Canadians to meet its emission targets under Kyoto.

## Energy savings rebates

Ottawa may give homeowners up to \$1,000 in rebates if they renovate their homes with new windows, doors, weather stripping, insulation, heat exchangers, furnaces and air-conditioners. The size of the proposed grant will depend on the degree of energy efficiency resulting from the renovations.

There is no word if Canadians will

get a rebate for having a newer home that already functions at maximum efficiency, or if larger homes will get bigger grants than smaller homes. Here is a novel idea: home renovations that cut down on household power and heating costs will recoup costs over the lifetime of the savings. There's no need for additional tax-funded incentives.

## Mandatory car efficiency

Federal Energy Minister, Herb Dhaliwal (owner of two sport utility vehicles), mused before the Commons Environment Committee that if automobile manufacturers refused to voluntarily increase the efficiency of cars by 25 per cent within seven years, the government would pass a law to make it happen. Canadian motorists are already paying high gasoline, insurance and car prices, not to mention fuel taxes. There is no question any law forcing car makers to comply with more government standards will dramatically increase the price of a new car. Hybrid vehicles, which are 25 per cent more efficient, cost at least 40 per cent more than the equivalent non-hybrid vehicle.

## Oil sand subsidies

It was also reported that Cabinet has approved a plan to subsidize the development of clean oil sand and coal technologies. No details of the proposal have been released yet.

## Warning

When the federal government began ratifying the Kyoto Protocol, the CTF warned that each household

**“When the federal government began ratifying the Kyoto Protocol, the CTF warned that each household could be on the hook for \$2,700 in Kyoto related costs.”**

could be on the hook for \$2,700 in Kyoto related costs. Giving \$1,000 to some home and building owners, forcing up the price of cars, and doling out hard-earned tax dollars to industry are all a recipe for a big taxpayer funded Kyoto bill.

At press time, Russia has yet to ratify the Kyoto Protocol. Without Russia's ratification the Protocol will not take effect. Not since the Cold War have taxpayers in Canada more eagerly anticipated the next move out of Moscow.■

# More ~~misfires~~ ~~misfires~~ at the gun registry

*By Bruce Winchester*

Since having our worst fears confirmed by the Auditor General last December, there remains a steady flow of bad news for taxpayers coming from the federal government's ill-fated gun registry.

## **\$2 billion by 2012**

As thousands of gun owners were rushing to register

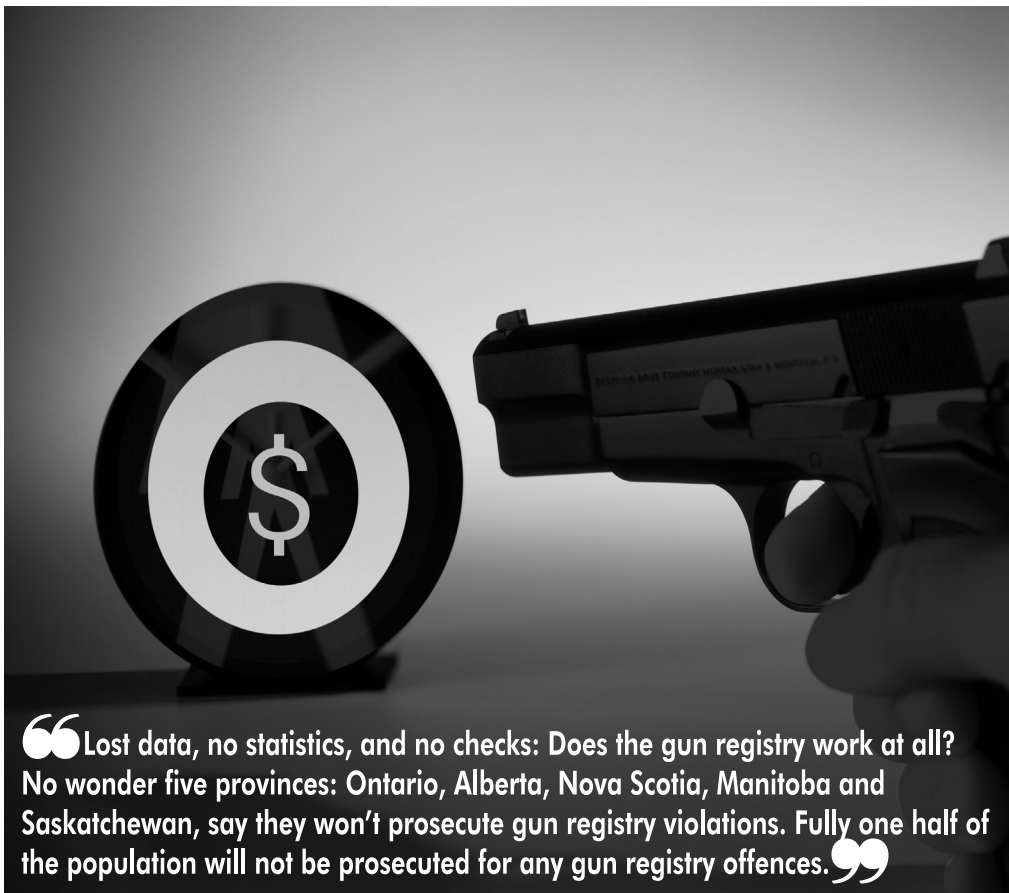
ahead of last December's deadline, the government's computer network collecting their information suffered a meltdown. Of course government officials won't say the system crashed, but they do fear vital information has been lost. This is more of the same incompetence detailed in the Auditor General's December report.

The CTF has estimated

the cost of fixing the registry could top \$2 billion by 2012. The Minister responsible disputes our calculations – maintaining the registry's costs will only clock in at a modest \$1.3 billion by 2012. However, growing revelations about these types of failures increasingly make CTF estimates seem conservative.

## **No Reference Checks**

It should come as no surprise that two days after admitting that they'd lost valuable information provided by gun owners, the folks at the gun registry admitted that not all of the 600,000 applicants were subjected to a full background check. Prospective gun owners are asked to provide two references that



“Lost data, no statistics, and no checks: Does the gun registry work at all? No wonder five provinces: Ontario, Alberta, Nova Scotia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, say they won't prosecute gun registry violations. Fully one half of the population will not be prosecuted for any gun registry offences.”

## THE TAXPAYER

include a signed declaration from each reference. Solicitor General, Wayne Easter – the minister now responsible for the fiasco – says there are no statistics available on the number of references contacted. That's not all, registry bureaucrats now claim they never intended to check all references. These signed declarations were merely to be put on file. If they had no intention of using them, it is hard to see what pur-

pose they serve.

Lost data, no statistics, and no checks: Does the gun registry work at all? No wonder five provinces: Ontario, Alberta, Nova Scotia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, say they won't prosecute gun registry violations. Fully one half of the population will not be prosecuted for any gun registry offences.

The gun registry has become Canada's most expensive Christmas card list,

except recipients don't get good wishes for the season, they get idle requests and an annual gun tax bill.

The CTF continues to demand the minister responsible provide the Auditor General will full disclosure of all gun registry costs. And as for the registry, the Ottawa Citizen declared in an editorial: "This dog won't hunt." That's right, and there's only one thing to do with a dog that won't hunt ...■

### *Tax Me I'm Canadian cap*



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black,  
embroidered,  
brass buckle

20% off for CTF supporters

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## Radwanski validates need for

# WHISTLE BLOWING

With the George Radwanski expense account fiasco still fresh in many peoples' minds, media and public attention has once again turned to the lack of whistle-blower protection legislation in Canada. What if public servants in the Privacy Commissioner's office were protected by a law that would have allowed them to expose his expense account largesse, long before it got out of hand?

In 1998, two staffers at the Department of Foreign Affairs blew the whistle on "careerism and opportunism" which had cost taxpayers at least \$2 billion in the previous decade. The staffers – John Guenette and Joanna Gualtieri – both worked in the Foreign Affairs bureau of physical resources, which managed a \$3 billion portfolio of real estate assets (diplomatic missions, accommodation for foreign service officers, etc.) around the globe.

For years they tried to highlight abuses of policies up the internal management food chain. But instead of being rewarded, thanked and even promoted for their conscientious public service, they allege they were harassed and ridiculed in the workplace. So in 1998 they filed an unprecedented \$33 million lawsuit against the Government of Canada claiming that their bureau in the Foreign Affairs bureaucracy was primarily run by people "with a fixation on securing for themselves, while posted abroad, grandiose and luxurious accommodations and lifestyles at the expense of the Canadian taxpayer. The abuses of governing policies were rampant."

Examples of such waste and mismanagement were found all over the globe. From leaving a Tokyo mansion vacant for three years (while paying \$350 million in rent per year) to buying overpriced condominiums in Guatemala to retaining lavish accommodations in Copenhagen, Denmark ... where disgraced former Cabinet Minister Alfonso Gagliano

### Commissioner dined in style on taxpayers' tab

Hospitality claims record 90 bills at an average cost of \$100

By ZAV RUSSELL

OTTAWA — George Radwanski was a regular at some of Ottawa's finest restaurants over the last few years, in which time Canada's Privacy Commissioner filed for at least \$60,000 on lunches and dinners.

Mr. Radwanski's hospitality expense claims — separate from and separate from his record of claims — record no different bills submitted for lunches and dinners from April 2000 to February of this year — an average of \$100 per bill.

lowest and privacy expert, said, Mr. Radwanski showed up at a data protection conference in Cambridge, England, in the summer of 2001 about 10 minutes before he was due to appear.

The guests, and he left, later to be seen again, said Mr. Radwanski had a "black" for Ray other meetings, but this conference was the day — when was that?

That wasn't the only example, said Mr. Gualtieri, who signed the Privacy Commissioner's 1998 Annual International Conference, and who worked for the Canadian government for 12 years.

Mr. Radwanski's expense claims — separate from and separate from his record of claims — record no different bills submitted for lunches and dinners from April 2000 to February of this year — an average of \$100 per bill.

now resides.

Of the \$33 million, \$3 million was for personal damages and the remaining \$30 million was to set up a

permanent non-profit organization to protect government employees who blow the whistle. Canada is still the only major industrial democracy without adequate whistle-blower protection for public servants.

Fast forward to 2002 and after four years of government stonewalling, Ms. Gualtieri was right back where she started. Ottawa tried to stifle her lawsuit claiming she had no right to sue. Thankfully the courts disagreed.

She has now started up FAIR, which stands for the Institute for Federal Accountability, Integrity and Resolution and has pledged to devote her efforts to help other federal public servants who wish to expose government waste and corruption.

Government sources in Ottawa now proudly point to Integrity Officers in each department and an overall integrity czar for the federal public service to whom whistle-blowers can turn for help. But it is clearly not enough as the recent George Radwanski expense scandal clearly demonstrates. And even worse, an obscure clause in Bill C-25, the Public Service Modernization Act seeks to take away the right Ms. Gualtieri won in court in 2002.

Section 236 of this proposed law — still before



by Walter Robinson  
Federal Director

# NG LEGISLATION

Parliament – reads:

## No Right of Action

### *Disputes relating to employment*

236. (1) The right of an employee to seek redress by way of grievance for any dispute relating to his or her terms or conditions of employment is in lieu of any right of action that the employee may have in relation to any act or omission giving rise to the dispute.

### *Application*

(2) Subsection (1) applies whether or not the employee avails himself or herself of the right to present a grievance in any particular case and whether or not the grievance could be referred to adjudication.

### *Exception*

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of an employee of a separate agency that has not been designated under subsection 209(3) if the dispute relates to his or her termination of employment for any reason that does not relate to a breach of discipline or misconduct.

So we're not progressing, we're regressing. This fall your CTF will redouble its efforts to convince federal lawmakers that comprehensive whistleblowing legislation is a key element of open and transparent government.

Our survey of whistleblowing statutes prevalent in other jurisdictions such as the United States and Commonwealth countries yields six key elements that must be included in any future Canadian law:

1) A requirement that the whistle-blower must have a "reasonable belief" of unethical activity and that this belief be supported through physical evidence and evidence of "gross mismanagement" in the supervisory chain;

2) The ability for the whistle-blower to make his/her claim to an independent investigative body which is not subject to political influence;

3) Affording protection to the whistle-blower from reprisals such as loss of employment, discrimination through declined labour mobility, benefit claw-backs, harassment in the workplace, etc.;

4) Adequate legislative protection to ensure that investigations are carried out in a manner con-

**“In 1998, two staffers at the Department of Foreign Affairs blew the whistle on “careerism and opportunism” which had cost taxpayers at least \$2 billion in the previous decade.”**

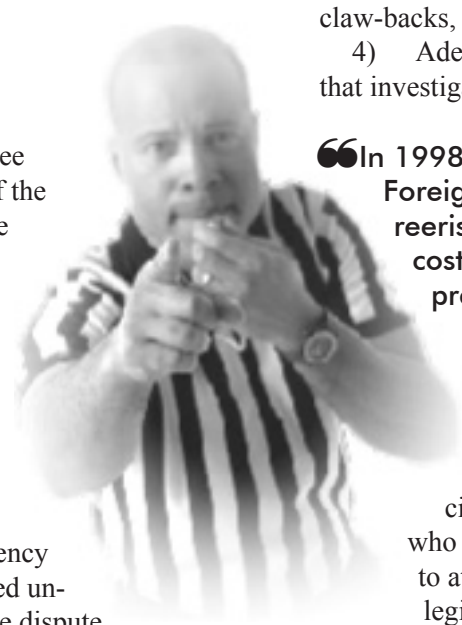
sistent with our key criminal justice provision of “innocent until proven guilty”;

5) Adequate retribution and disciplinary measures for those individuals who seek to use the legislation as a shield to attack government policy or abuse the legislation with intent to personally harm others; and

6) A mechanism which allows for reporting through to appropriate legislative officials on recommendations (if applicable) for changes to various statutes.

As Ms. Gualtieri once wrote: “If there is no means for public servants to expose wrongdoing with fear of retaliation, then good conscience and moral conduct are unilaterally repressed. History teaches the consequences of such repression: staggering costs and public disillusionment.”

That just about sums it up. ■





Saskatchewan  
Director David  
MacLean at Regina  
news conference  
calling for the fed-  
eral government to  
set up a Municipal  
Roadway Trust to  
invest gas tax dol-  
lars into municipal  
roads.

# Gas Tax Honest Day

*By Walter Robinson*

On May 15<sup>th</sup>, your CTF held kicked off its fifth annual Gas Tax Honest Campaign with Gas Tax Honest Day. CTF directors fanned out across the country to hold news conferences at service stations, beside pot holes, on construction sites and right on Parliament Hill to blow the whistle on federal gas tax gouging at the pumps.

But it was different this year. Media interest was phenomenal with CTF directors earning newspaper headlines and TV news coverage across the country. Taxpayer anger was more prevalent in talk radio markets. Many more organizations from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to the TD Bank have jumped on the gas tax for infrastructure bandwagon. And finally, the campaign is catching the attention of federal politicians including those seeking to replace Jean Chretien.

Let's recap what we know. Ottawa collects \$4.8 billion annually in gas and fuel related excises taxes. Over \$4.4 billion of this amount comes from the pumps every time we fill up our car, van or truck. And here is the most shocking statistic; less than 3% of this money is ploughed back into roadway maintenance and construction. That's right, Ottawa only returns \$118 million of its \$4.8 billion haul back



## THE TAXPAYER

to the provinces for highway and roadway work.

Worse still, some 99% of this money is funnelled to Quebec and the four Atlantic provinces. From the western banks of the Ottawa River to the farthest tip of Vancouver Island, the rest of Canada is basically shut out of any federal transfers – your money paid at your local gas pump – for road maintenance and construction.

The message may finally be getting through. Five years ago high pump prices were almost always blamed on a “conspiracy” by the oil companies. While big oil still has a fair degree of explaining to do about its pricing practices, study after study for the past quarter century has revealed no evidence whatsoever of price collusion.

It is big government that is doing the biggest gouging and making the largest profit at the pumps. Over the past 12 months, motorists paid on average, between 35% and 47% in taxes at the pumps per litre of fuel depending on where they live. Albertans paid the lowest in combined federal provincial taxes while Quebecers and Newfoundlanders got

hosed – pardon the pun – through their teeth.

Even if we were to include what Ottawa spends on infrastructure (a generous definition which includes bocce ball courts and canoe museums), this amount still represents less than 10% of all gas taxes collected since 1993. Gasoline tax revenues are filling up government coffers, while motorists shake, rattle and roll on Canada’s deteriorating roads and highways.

This year, as part of our annual gas tax

Current Canadian Fuel Tax Rates						
	Regular Gas	Mid-grade Gas	Premium Gas	Diesel	Aviation Gas/ Turbo Gas	Propane
Federal Taxes						
<b>GST</b>	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%
<b>Excise (cents/litre)</b>	10.0	10.0	10.0	4.0	11.0/4.0	–
<b>Harmonized Sales Tax<sup>1</sup></b>	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%
Provincial Taxes						
<b>Nfld</b>	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	0.7	7.0
<b>PEI</b>	14.0	14.0	14.0	13.5	0.7	12.0
<b>NS</b>	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.4	0.7	7.0
<b>NB</b>	14.5	14.5	14.5	16.9	2.5	6.7
<b>PQ</b>	15.2	15.2	15.2	16.2	3.0	–
Sales Tax	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	–	7.5%
Montréal Levy	1.5	1.5	1.5		–	–
<b>ON</b>	14.7	14.7	14.7	14.3	2.7	4.3
<b>MB</b>	11.5	11.5	11.5	10.9	4.2	9.0
<b>SK</b>	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	3.5	9.0
<b>BC</b>	14.50	14.50	14.50	15.00	3.0/3.0-5.0	
Victoria	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.50	–	
Vancouver	20.50	20.50	20.50	21.00	–	–
BC Sales Tax	–	–	–	–	–	7.0%
<b>AB</b>	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	1.5	6.5
<b>Yukon</b>	6.2	6.2	6.2	7.2	1.1	–
<b>NWT</b>	10.5	10.5	10.5	8.9	1.0	–
<b>Nunavut</b>	6.4	6.4	6.4	9.1	1.0	–
1. HST is only levied in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. - GST is levied in all other provinces and territories.						

# Stop siphoning gas taxes, Ottawa urged

Roads get little, taxpayer group says  
Plan would give cities half of revenues

VALERIE LAWTON  
OTTAWA BUREAU

OTTAWA—Gas taxes are “highway robbery” — with only a tiny amount of the billions the federal government collects from the pump being

whole, are the ones making off like bandits at the pump,” Walter Robinson, the group’s

of that money is spent in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces. “Basically central and western Canada, as a whole, are the ones making off like bandits at the pump,” Walter Robinson, the group’s

1995;

- Elimination of HST and GST charges on the tax component of the pump price; and
- Encouraging service stations visibly identify the pre- and post-tax components on the price of a litre of gasoline.

report, we

further developed

our *Municipal Roadway*

*Trust* model that would direct

50% of federal gasoline tax revenues toward roadway construction or improvement. The remainder would be returned to taxpayers in the form of lower fuel taxes.

Gasoline taxes are a user fee applied to motorists. Adopting the CTF’s *Municipal Roadway Trust* model would return more than \$2 billion – each year – directly to municipal governments to help pay for local roadway maintenance and improvement. The Municipal Roadway Trust will plough back \$19 million for roads in Halifax, \$335 million in Toronto, \$68 million in Ottawa and \$118 million in Vancouver. Disbursements through this program would be audited by the federal Auditor General.

Other recommendations from this year’s report include:

- Elimination of the 1.5 cent/litre deficit reduction surtax added to the federal gas tax in

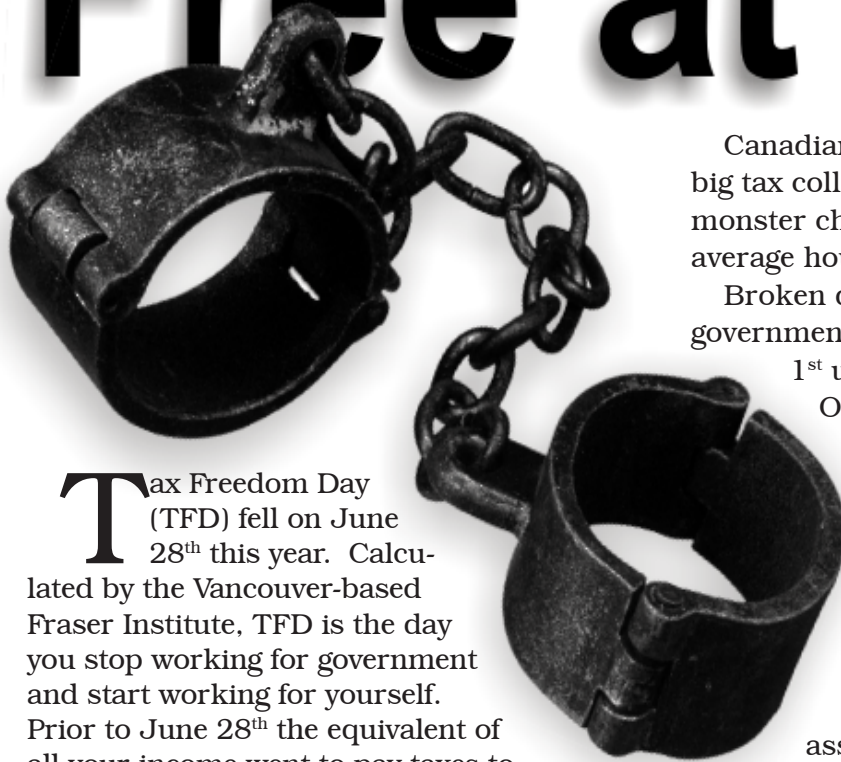
Finally, as another way of getting our growing message to the feds, CTF members and taxpayers in general can nominate Canada’s worst highway on the CTF’s website [www.taxpayer.com](http://www.taxpayer.com) under the “Highway from Hell” icon.

One month after the launch of our campaign, soon-to-be Prime Minister Paul Martin in an important speech before the Federation of Canadian Municipalities committed to dedicating a portion of federal gasoline taxes to cities for roadway development.

In response, the National Post’s June 10th lead editorial reads: “[Mr. Martin] may want to explore the Canadian Taxpayers Federation’s Municipal Roadway Trust ... the plan offers one well-thought-out way ... it deserves Mr. Martin’s full consideration.”■

“Ottawa collects \$4.8 billion annually in gas and fuel related excises taxes. Over \$4.4 billion of this amount comes from the pumps every time we fill up our car, van or truck. And here is the most shocking statistic; less than 3% of this money is ploughed back into roadway maintenance and construction.”

# Free at last



**T**ax Freedom Day (TFD) fell on June 28<sup>th</sup> this year. Calculated by the Vancouver-based Fraser Institute, TFD is the day you stop working for government and start working for yourself. Prior to June 28<sup>th</sup> the equivalent of all your income went to pay taxes to the three levels of government

This year, TFD falls two days later than just one year ago. Gains made in the 2000 federal budget are now retreating thanks in no small part to CPP tax hikes, creeping fee increases and other veiled tax takes. Last spring's bad news — big spending budgets — leave taxpayers labouring longer for government this year.

Canadians worked 178 days to feed the big tax collection monster. A very hungry monster chewing up a whopping 48% of our average household income.

Broken down between the three levels of government it looks like this: From January

1<sup>st</sup> until April 12<sup>th</sup>, we worked for Ottawa. After a good night's rest we then worked for the provinces from April 13<sup>th</sup> to until June 15<sup>th</sup>. Finally, we toiled from June 16<sup>th</sup> until June 28<sup>th</sup> for City Hall.

Rest assured your CTF remains

vigilant in demanding governments control their wasteful spending habits and reform core programs: the number one and two ingredients in ever rising taxes!■

## 2003 Provincial Tax Freedom Days \*

NL*	June 8
PEI*	June 9
AB	June 15
NB*	June 16
NS*	June 17
SK	June 21
MB	June 24
ON	June 26
Canada	June 26
BC	July 2
PQ	July 2

\* Atlantic provinces experience TFD earlier due to larger federal transfers as a portion of their revenues

## Taxes of the Average Family 2003 (with two or more individuals)

Cash Income	Income tax	Sales tax	Sin & other excise taxes	Fuel & vehicle license taxes	Social security, pension & medical	Property taxes	Import duties	Profit tax	Natural resource levies	Other taxes	Total tax bill
73,718	12,081	6,031	2,342	986	7,544	2,569	316	2,763	423	753	35,808

## Average Family Tax Bill

Federal government	Provincial government	Municipal government	Total tax bill
\$20,328 / 57.4% / 102 days	\$12,699 / 35.9% / 64 days	\$2,358 / 6.7% / 12 days	\$35,385 / 100% / 178 day



WILL SUPREME COURT  
UPHOLD TAX EQUALITY

## VICTORY?

On June 11, 2003 the Federal Court of Appeal overturned the monumental lower court decision that ruled descendants of the Treaty 8 Indians do not have to pay any tax at any time for any reason, regardless of where in Canada they live. This was a great victory for all taxpayers. Income – not race or ancestry – should be the only valid basis for a tax exemption.

In his trial decision, Justice Campbell ruled that federal government trea-

ty commissioners did not promise the Indians a tax exemption in 1899. Campbell ruled that Treaty 8 Indians believed they had been promised a tax exemption, even though it wasn't included in the written text. He further ruled that the federal government must assume responsibility for the misunderstanding that arose. On that basis he declared that descendants of the Treaty 8 Indians do not have to pay any tax at any time for any reason.

Fortunately for taxpayers, the Federal Court of Appeal didn't see it that way. In fact, in Benoit

v. Canada, the Federal Court of Appeal accuses Justice Campbell of a "complete abandonment of the rules of evidence". The trial judge excluded relevant evidence and based his decision on evidence that is "sparse, doubtful and equivocal".

For example, the trial judge excluded from evidence over one hundred transcripts of taped interviews of aboriginal elders conducted in the 1970s, in which the elders made no mention of taxation. Only the transcript of one interview, that with Cree elder Jean-Marie Mustus, who did mention tax, was admitted into evidence as relevant. The Court of Ap-

“The Federal Court of Appeal accuses Justice Campbell of a ‘complete abandonment of the rules of evidence.’ The trial judge excluded relevant evidence and based his decision on evidence that is ‘sparse, doubtful and equivocal’.”



peal notes that the silence of over one hundred elders regarding taxation suggests that they were never promised an exemption from it. The trial judge should have admitted all of – or none of – these transcripts into evidence.

The Federal Court of Appeal's decision is a relief for taxpayers. However, the judicial process may not be over. Treaty 8 plaintiffs said they will appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. Should the Supreme Court of Canada decide to hear the case, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation will seek leave once again to act as an intervenor due to the huge national implications of the case.

For example, some Indian leaders maintain that the descendants of Treaties 1 through 11, signed from 1871 to 1923, should all benefit from the same treat-



by Tanis Fiss  
Aboriginal Policy Centre  
Director

ty right to be exempt from taxation. Obviously this would have a considerable impact on federal and provincial tax revenues, with other Canadians being forced to pay more tax. Indeed, seven

weeks after the trial judgment the Federal Court of Appeal ordered a stay, warning of irreparable harm. The judgment was suspended as it "could result in chaos to tax administration, and possible

harm to business competitors of those entitled to a supply of tax-free goods."

Furthermore, several of the 35,000 native people affected by the Treaty 8 decision expect to be reimbursed for taxes they and their ancestors have paid over the past century. The cost of a reimbursement for back taxes could amount to tens, even hundreds of millions of dollars if one considers 100 years of taxes paid in today's dollars plus interest.

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) intervened at trial and on appeal to argue that a race-based tax exemption would violate numerous

## Tax immunity battle will go to Supreme Court, native leaders insist

Lower court strikes down rights to sweeping exemptions — some based on oral histories

BY NORMA GREENAWAY  
and DAVID HOWELL  
CANWEST NEWS SERVICE

EDMONTON — Native leaders vowed to take their battle for tax immunity to the Supreme Court of Canada after a lower court struck down their right Wednesday to sweeping exemptions. "It's a right that was given to us in a treaty," said Gordon Benoit, the Alberta man who sparked the epic legal battle by suggesting that natives covered by Treaty 8 should be immune from taxes. He was reacting to a decision by the Federal Court of Appeal in Vancouver last week that said natives in British Columbia, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

The ruling gave total tax freedom to natives covered by Treaty 8, an agreement signed in 1899, even if they live and work off-reserve. But the conclusions reached by Campbell were not adequately backed by evidence, the court of appeal said in its unanimous 3-0 written judgment.

It took particular exception to Campbell's reliance on oral history as convincing evidence of the natives' claim to tax-free living. The ruling said Campbell's "desire to give the oral history" provided by the natives "crossed the boundary" and amounted to a "rejection of the rules of evidence." The court said the evidence is, at best, "inconsistent" and in my view, "not credible."

“The trial judge excluded from evidence over one hundred transcripts of taped interviews of aboriginal elders conducted in the 1970s, in which the elders made no mention of taxation.”

international treaties and conventions against racism, not to mention basic principles of fairness. In light of the fact that treaty rights are acquired and exercised on the basis of ancestry, this would be a step backwards in the progress of human civilization, which has been towards equal individual rights for all

citizens. For years the CTF has advocated lower taxes as a way to spur economic growth and to create prosperity for all. But the CTF opposes tax reductions or exemptions which are applied only to one group, at the expense of other Canadians.

As stated at the outset, if someone does not pay tax,

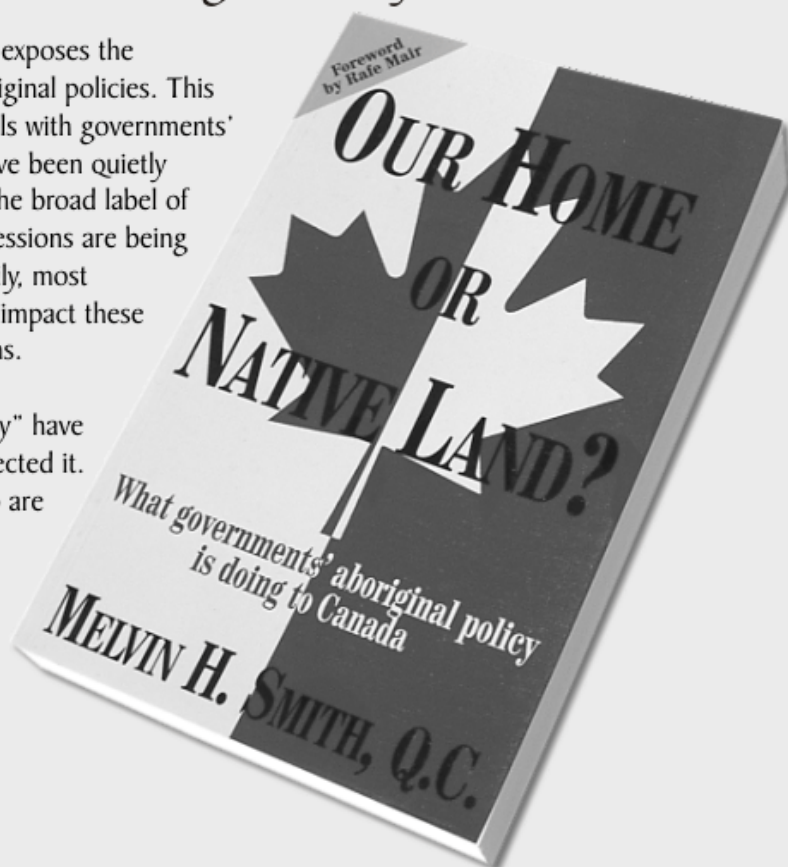
it should be because they are too poor to pay, not because of their racial ancestry. A restoration of the Benoit trial judgment by the Supreme Court of Canada would only serve to further isolate native Canadians and lead to the continuation of the failed paternalistic model of the past.■

## Our Home or Native Land

Former CTF Board Director, the late Mel Smith exposes what's wrong with Canada's Aboriginal Policy.

In his Canadian bestseller, Mel Smith exposes the deficiencies and flaws in Canada's aboriginal policies. This book is written for all Canadians. It deals with governments' actions of alarming proportions that have been quietly unfolding over the past decade under the broad label of aboriginal policy. Although major concessions are being made on the aboriginal front almost daily, most Canadians are blissfully unaware of the impact these decisions will have on future generations.

This book will anger you. Those with a vested interest in the "Indian Industry" have condemned it. Native leaders have rejected it. Meanwhile, most native Canadians who are forced to live under the inadequacies of Canada's aboriginal policy silently agree. Find out for yourself what's gone wrong...



# \$19.95

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Please use the order form located on the back cover of *The Taxpayer*



What the Federal Court of Appeal had to say about:

# JUDGE CAMPBELL

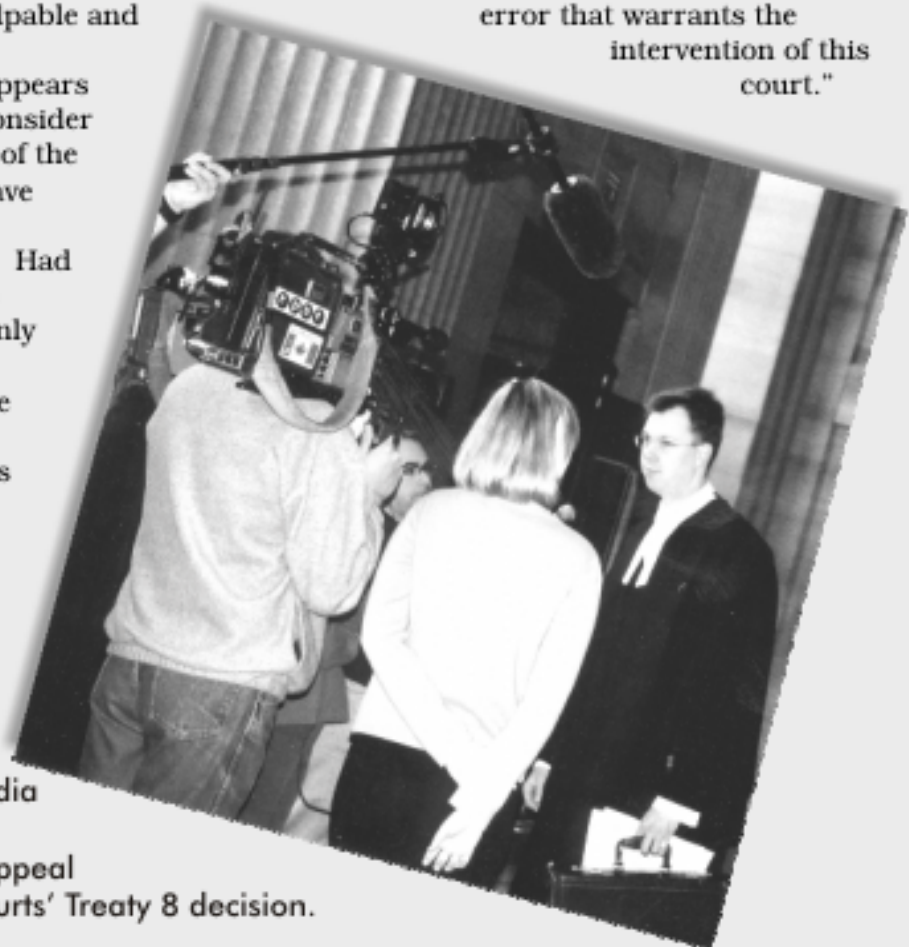
Supporters will recall the original trial judge in this case, Douglas Campbell, who had some nasty things to say about the CTF and our belief in equality as argued in his court room. Well, take a look at what Judge Marc Nadon of the Federal Court of Appeal had to say about Justice Douglas Campbell:

"Since there is nothing in the record which can reasonably support the conclusion reached by the trial judge, I am compelled to find that he made a palpable and overriding error."

"The trial judge appears to have failed to consider a sizeable portion of the evidence and to have misapprehended material evidence. Had he not made these errors, he could only have come to the conclusion that the evidence adduced by the respondents was not sufficient to allow him to reach the conclusion that he did."

Campbell's "desire to be sensitive to the oral history" provided by witnesses had "crossed the boundary" and amounted to an abandonment of the rules of evidence. "The evidence is, at best, ambiguous and inconclusive, and in my view, can only be described as sparse, doubtful and equivocal."

"It does not appear that the trial judge made any attempt whatsoever to assess critically the evidence presented by these witnesses. His failure to do so constitutes a serious error that warrants the intervention of this court."



John Carpay (right) answers media questions after the Federal Court of Appeal overturns lower courts' Treaty 8 decision.

# Aboriginal Business Grants

Each year Industry Canada doles out countless grants to Canadian businesses. Among these are grants given under the Aboriginal Business Canada Program. Last year, Industry Minister Allan Rock gave out over \$34 million worth of these grants. Like the rest of Industry Canada's corporate welfare, this free money puts other businesses at a disadvantage vis-à-vis these recipients. The following list provides a sampling of some of the recipients that received funding in the 2000-2001 fiscal year. This list of highlights includes the name of the recipient, the location, purpose of the grant and the dollar amount approved.

1272172 Ont. Inc., Sarnia, ON, Innovation - Capital - Mobile Welding School.....\$75,000	- Acquire Gravel Truck To Haul Hazardous Waste (Business Plan).....\$1,875	Aboriginal Tourism Assoc of BC, Vancouver, BC - Tourism - To Promote Marketing ().....\$66,667
1272172 Ont. Inc., Sarnia, ON, Innovation - Business Support - Mobile Welding School.....\$11,250	873368 Alberta Ltd., Fort McMurray, AB - Youth - Exp Candy Franchise Business (Business Plan).....\$975	Aboriginal Tourism Assoc of Saskatchewan Inc., Regina, SK - Eco Cul T Est Tourism Assoc.....\$105,000
13601 Yukon Inc., Whitehorse, YT, Cultural T Exp Yukon Inn (Business Plan).....\$25,000	9106-0038 Quebec Inc., Saint-Gedeon, QC - Scierie Protative - Implantation.....\$16,986	Aboriginal Tourism Assoc of Southern Ontario, Brantford, ON - Tourism - Rta - Operational Support for Tourism Assoc.....\$33,500
1477051 Ontario Ltd., Whitby, ON, Youth - Capital - Gymnastics Facility.....\$66,295	A & J Sutherland General Store Inc., Constance Lake, ON - Innovation - Capital - Point of Sale System.....\$7,150	Aboriginal Tourism Assoc of Southern Ontario, Brantford, ON - Pavilion at Cdn. Aboriginal Festival at Skydome.....\$9,720
1477051 Ontario Ltd., Whitby, ON, Youth - Marketing - Gymnastics Facility.....\$8,700	A & J Sutherland General Store Inc., Constance Lake, ON - Innovation - Business Support - Point of Sale System.....\$15,559	Aboriginal Tourism Team Canada, Ottawa, ON - Tourism - Assoc (Operational Funding).....\$499,000
1477051 Ontario Ltd., Whitby, ON, Youth - Business Support - Gymnastics Facility.....\$2,025	A.D.K. Corporate Group, Fort Liard, NT - High Know - Est Satellite Communications (Business Plan).....\$6,000	Abraham Ruben, Saltspring Island, BC - Trade/Exp - Exp Artwork (Business Plan).....\$5,250
16846 Yukon Inc., Carcross, YT, Tourism/Trade - Do Feasibility Study for Tourism Resort.....\$52,875	A.D.K. Corporate Group, Fort Liard, NT - High Know - Est Satellite Communications.....\$75,000	Agnes Frechette, Pinawa, MB - Innov - Exp Dress Designing Business.....\$19,280
3055543 Nova Scotia Ltd., Eskasoni, NS - Communications & Technology for Accounting Business.....\$10,000	Aaron Dryzanowski, Mafeking, MB - Youth - Est Portable Sawmill Operation (Business Plan).....\$1,500	Ahtahkakoop First Nation, Shell Lake, SK - Innov Prod Improv Pos System for Store/Gas Bar (Business Support).....\$3,750
3633799 Canada Inc., Kahnawake, QC - Magazine.....\$23,700	Aayoo Guiding Services Inc., Skidegate, BC - Tourism - To Est a Tour Guide Business.....\$63,380	Ahtahkakoop First Nation, Shell Lake, SK - Innov Prod Improv Pos System for Store/Gas Bar.....\$9,002
3724329 Manitoba Ltd., Dauphin, MB - Marketing for Yamaha Dealership.....\$24,900	Aboriginal Computer Solutions Ltd., West Vancouver, BC - Trade/Innovation - To Expand On Computer Sales & Services Business.....\$21,000	Air Creebec Inc., Val-D'or, QC - Innovation - Computer System.....\$92,373
4019181 Manitoba Ltd., Winnipeg, MB - Innov - Exp Outdoor Advertising Business.....\$25,000	Aboriginal Economic Renewal Initiative, Toronto, ON - Innovation - It Forum.....\$24,000	Albert Dean Lafond, Marcellin, SK - Innov Prod Improv Pos System for Convenience Store/Gas Bar.....\$10,315
4354311 Manitoba Ltd., Winnipeg, MB - Youth - Est Auto Service Business.....\$40,000	Aboriginal Economic Renewal Initiative, Toronto, ON - Procurement Conference.....\$17,649	Albert Dean Lafond, Marcellin, SK - Innov Prod Improv Pos System for Convenience Store/Gas Bar.....\$1,200
4528027 Manitoba Ltd., Winnipeg, MB - Innov - Est Student Loan Fee for Service Business (Marketing).....\$30,000	Aboriginal Economic Renewal Initiative, Toronto, ON - Innovation - Good Health/Business Conference.....\$25,000	Albert Dean Lafond, Marcellin, SK - Innov Prod Improv Pos System for Convenience Store/Gas Bar (Business Support).....\$1,500
4528027 Manitoba Ltd., Winnipeg, MB - Innov - Est Student Loan Fee for Service Business (Business Support).....\$12,750	Aboriginal Leadership Institute, Inc., Winnipeg, MB - Est Training Institute.....\$100,000	Albert Metat, Fort Albany, ON - Capital - Tourism - Catch/Release Fishing Camp.....\$22,440
519637508 Alta Ltd., Rocky Mountain House, AB - Prod Imp - Mod Gas Bar/Convenience Store.....\$7,250	Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta, Edmonton, AB - Info Hwy - Mod Publishing Co. . \$13,914	Albert Metat, Fort Albany, ON - Marketing - Tourism - Catch/Release Fishing Camp.....\$2,220
524850 Alta. Ltd., Saskatoon, SK - Trade Marketing for Hot tub Business.....\$6,000	Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta, Edmonton, AB - High Know - Exp Radio Service.....\$200,000	Alexander Joseph Lulien, Colchester, NS - To Contract the Services of Grant Thornton To Complete a Claim, Interim Financial Statements, & Set.....\$3,500
593035 BC Ltd., Powell River, BC - Trade/Tour - To Expand On Hotel Business.....\$24,000	Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, Ottawa, ON - Innovation - Aboriginal Broadcast Talent Directory Update.....\$6,000	Alfred Antony Peters, Kent, BC - Youth - Est Specialty Wood Business.....\$3,000
613413 Saskatchewan Ltd., Prince Albert, SK - Trade & Market Color Phone Directories Publishing.....\$9,360	Aboriginal Tourism Assoc of BC, West Vancouver, BC - Tour/Market - Do a Showcase for Tour Operators.....\$21,660	Amanda Blomfeldt, Thunder Bay, ON - Youth - Business Support - Esthetics Salon.....\$750
613413 Saskatchewan Ltd., Prince Albert, SK - Trade & Market Color Phone Directories Publishing (Business Support).....\$1,500	Aboriginal Tourism Assoc of BC, Capilano, BC - Tourism - Services Tour Operators in BC.....\$51,000	Amanda Blomfeldt, Thunder Bay, ON - Youth - Capital - Esthetics Salon.....\$5,984
614934 Saskatchewan Ltd., Regina, SK - Innovation - Conduct Best Use Analysis of Landmark Inn.....\$27,825		Amanda Blomfeldt, Thunder Bay, ON - Youth - Marketing - Esthetics Salon.....\$1,080
615637 BC Ltd., Cranbrook, MB - Youth - Acquire Dairy Queen Franchise.....\$65,000		Amanda Page, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Acquire
749727 Alberta Ltd., Drayton Valley, AB - Youth		

# Aboriginal Business Grants

Name	location	purpose of funding	\$ amount
Rock Bottom Fishing Hole .....	\$48,000	BMG Business Management Group, Saskatoon, SK - Coordinate - Saks, Session Int'l. Dev. Opp. for Aboriginal Companies .....	\$20,000
Amanda Page, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Acquire Rock Bottom Fishing Hole (Business Support) .....	\$3,750	Bonnie Saunders, Frenchman Butte, SK - Trade Dom Marketing for Glass Works Bus...\$1,500	
Angela Landrie, Battleford, SK - Youth Est Consignment Centre .....	\$12,520	Bonnie Saunders, Frenchman Butte, SK - Trade Dom Marketing for Glass Works Bus...\$1,325	
Angela Landrie, Battleford, SK - Youth Est Consignment Centre (Business Support) .....	\$2,062	Bonnie Saunders, Frenchman Butte, SK - Trade Dom Marketing for Glass Works Bus...\$2,525	
Angela Landrie, Battleford, SK - Youth Est Consignment Centre (Business Plan) .....	\$600	Bradley D. Darbyshire, Saskatoon, SK - Youth Purchase Shares in Automotive Bus...\$1,921	
Angela Landrie, Battleford, SK - Youth Est Consignment Centre (Marketing) .....	\$4,023	Bradley J. Cunningham, High Prairie, AB - Youth - Est Gravel Truck Business (Com/ Aftercare) .....	\$44,750
Annette Alexandra Janes, Labrador City, NFLD - Capital Project - Art Business .....	\$2,409	Bradley Paul McCullough, Clinton, BC - Youth/ Tour - Outdoor Adventure Evo-Tourism Business (Com & Business Support) .....	\$11,500
Annette Alexandra Janes, Labrador City, NFLD - Marketing Project - Art Business .....	\$6,542	C.D. Media Studio Inc., Red Deer, AB - High Know - Est Computer Multi Media .....	\$50,000
Annette Alexandra Janes, Labrador City, NFLD - Art Work .....	\$13,572	C.D. Media Studio Inc., Red Deer, AB - High Know - Est Computer Multi Media (Aftercare) .....	\$1,500
Apetogosan (Metis) Dev. Inc., Edmonton, AB - Marketing of Organization .....	\$15,000	Calvin Bordian, Swan River, MB - Youth - Est Fed-Ex Contracting (Business Plan) .....	\$1,500
Apetogosan (Metis) Dev. Inc., Edmonton, AB - Extend Aboriginal Youth Business Initiative .....	\$245,000	Camp Bel Air Inc., La Broquerie, MB - Eco Tourism - Est. Trailer Park .....	\$68,160
Arbor Man Tree Services Ltd., Sherwood Park, AB - Youth - Exp Tree Services (Aftercare) .....	\$1,500	Camp Bel Air Inc., La Broquerie, MB - Eco Tourism - Est. Trailer Park (Marketing) .....	\$6,840
Archetype Media Inc., Vancouver, BC - Innov/ Marketing - Do Marketing Plan for Video & Digital Media Business .....	\$21,000	Camp Bel Air Inc., La Broquerie, MB - Eco Tourism - Est. Trailer Park (Business Support) .....	\$2,250
Art Porter, Six Nations, ON - T&M Exp. - Business Plan - Export Hay/Straw .....	\$2,625	Carisa L. Hudson, Brandon, MB - Youth - Acquire Hairdressing Business .....	\$24,938
Assembly of First Nations, Ottawa, ON - T&M Exp & Strategic Inits. - Conf-Indigenous Peoples-Dev. & Connecting To the New Econ. ....	\$100,000	Carisa L. Hudson, Brandon, MB - Youth - Acquire Hairdressing Business (Business Support) .....	\$12,000
Barkin Biscuit Bakery Inc., Maple Ridge, BC - Youth - To Est a Bakery for Dog Biscuits .....	\$18,400	Carla Henry, Winnipeg, MB - Youth - Est Graphic Arts/Desktop Publishing Business .....	\$1,125
Barkin Biscuit Bakery Inc., Maple Ridge, BC - Youth - To Est a Bakery for Dog Biscuits .....	\$1,125	Carla Henry, Winnipeg, MB - Youth - Est Graphic Arts/Desktop Publishing Business .....	\$12,500
Bernadette Thomas, Cochin, SK - Innov Prod Improv Pos System for Store/Gas Bar .....	\$14,866	Carmen Lorensen, Grimshaw, AB - Youth - Est Beauty Products Business (Com/Aft) .....	\$10,060
Bernadette Thomas, Cochin, SK - Innov Prod Improv Pos System for Store/Gas Bar (Marketing) .....	\$9,765	Carsnmore, Halifax, NS - To Advertise a Newly Established Automobile Purchasing Service in Halifax, NS .....	\$6,611
Bernadette Thomas, Cochin, SK - Innov Prod Improv Pos System for Store/Gas Bar (Business Support) .....	\$4,500	Chief Mountain Developments Inc., Cardston, AB - Mod Gas Bar/Convenience Store .....	\$41,000
Big Soul Productions, Forest, ON - Youth - Business Support - Video & Film Prod .....	\$8,419	Christine Gayman, Scarborough, ON - Youth - Capital - Est Mural Painting Business .....	\$10,302
Big Soul Productions, Forest, ON - Youth - Capital - Video & Film Production .....	\$65,792	Christine Gayman, Scarborough, ON - Youth - Marketing - Est Mural Painting Business .....	\$5,655
Big Soul Productions, Forest, ON - Youth - Marketing - Video & Film Production .....	\$9,209	Christine Gayman, Scarborough, ON - Youth - Business Support - Est Mural Painting Business .....	\$1,125
Bigstone Food Store Ltd., Wabasca, AB - Prod Imp - Mod Store .....	\$19,250	Christopher Dubnick, Brandon, MB - Youth - Acquire Restaurant (Business Plan) .....	\$6,000
Bison Fire Protection Inc., Winnipeg, MB - Youth - Acq Fire Protection Services Business .....	\$25,000	Christopher Dubnick, Brandon, MB - Youth - Acquire Restaurant .....	\$75,000
Blake Martin, Six Nations, ON - Youth - Business Plan - Acquisition of a Sports Store .....	\$1,875	Christopher Dubnick, Brandon, MB - Youth - Acquire Restaurant (Business Support) .....	\$7,500
		Christopher G. Murphy, Fort George, BC - Youth - Est Contract Trucking Business .....	\$3,000
		Cindy Detting, Peace River, BC - Trade/Dom - Exp a Costume Rental Business .....	\$9,000
		Cisco Transports Ltd., Cardston, AB - Youth - Est Oilfield Trucking .....	\$50,000
		Clark Wilkinson, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Est Lawn Care & Snow Removal Business .....	\$7,500
		Clark Wilkinson, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Est Lawn Care & Snow Removal Business (Business Support) .....	\$1,875
		Corvus Licensing Corp, Lumsden, SK - Innov Dev New Prod Est Cd Storage System .....	\$3,750
		Cory Nepinak, Pine Creek, MB - Youth - Expand Tow Truck Operation .....	\$25,000
		Creations By Berna, Yellowknife, NT - Trade/ Dom - Exp Aboriginal Wedding Attire (Marketing) .....	\$18,050
		Creations By Berna, Yellowknife, NT - Trade/ Dom - Exp Aboriginal Wedding Attire (Aftercare) .....	\$6,000
		Dakota Dunes Golf & Country Club Inc., Saskatoon, SK - Innov Golf Course Computerized Watering System .....	\$210,700
		Dakota Dunes Golf & Country Club Inc., White Cap, SK - Marketing for Golf Course (Marketing) .....	\$39,300
		Dakwakada Forest Products Inc., Saskatoon, SK - Innov - Business Support for Forestry Business .....	\$75,000
		Damien Hinks, Red Bank, NB - Marketing & Promotional Costs of a Newly Established Arts & Crafts Business .....	\$7,728
		Damien Hinks, Red Bank, NB - Est a Trade Booth at the Afr-Nexus 2001 Trade Show, July 17-19, 2001 .....	\$1,500
		Dan-Tay Enterprises Ltd., Edmonton, AB - Est Quizno's Franchise (Business Plan) .....	\$6,375
		Dan-Tay Enterprises Ltd., Edmonton, AB - Youth - Est Quizno's Franchise (Com/ Aftercare) .....	\$75,100
		Dana Naye Ventures, Whitehorse, YT, Extend Aboriginal Youth Loan Fund .....	\$250,000
		Dana Naye Ventures, Whitehorse, YT, High Know - Acq Computer Service Operation (Business Plan) .....	\$75,000
		Darren Jewell, Thunder Bay, ON - Youth - Capital - Concrete Block Manufacture .....	\$73,550
		Dauphin Pool & Spa, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Expand Dauphin Pool & Spa (Business Plan) .....	\$2,250
		Dauphin Pool & Spa, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Expand Dauphin Pool & Spa .....	\$74,980
		Dauphin Pool & Spa, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Expand Dauphin Pool & Spa .....	\$3,750
		David & Terry Desmoulin, Hornepayne, ON - Youth - Consulting - Envir. Assess. On Centre Station .....	\$7,125
		David Alan Kelland, Zama, AB - Youth - Est Welding Business (Com/Aftercare) .....	\$27,500
		Dora Durocher, Beauval, SK - Trade Dom Market Crafts .....	\$1,500
		Douglas Cardinal, Ottawa, ON - T&M Exp - Marketing - International Currents in Chicago .....	\$47,466
		Dr. Doolittle's Quality Pet Foods, London, ON -	



# Aboriginal Business Grants

Name	location	purpose of funding	\$ amount
T&M Expansion - Marketing - Pet Food Store .....			\$35,700
Dr. Doolittle's Quality Pet Foods, London, ON - T&M Exp. - Business Support - Pet Food Store .....			\$20,513
Dr. Doolittle's Quality Pet Foods, London, ON - T&M Exp. - Capital - Pet Food Store .....			\$22,800
Dr. Neil Mcleod, Dryden, ON - High Know - Est Chiropractic Clinic (Business Support) .....			\$3,000
Dr. Neil Mcleod, Dryden, ON - High Know - Est Chiropractic Clinic .....			\$16,064
East Meats West Halal, Mississauga, ON - Innovation - Capital - Meat Processing Plant .....			\$43,346
East Meats West Halal, Mississauga, ON - Innovation - Marketing - Meat Processing Plant .....			\$9,900
East Meats West Halal, Mississauga, ON - Innovation - Business Support - Meat Processing Plant .....			\$4,838
Ebb & Flow Economic Dev. Corp, Ebb & Flow, MB - Expand Bison Ranch (Business Plan) .....			\$18,000
Edward & Maxine Wesley, Thunder Bay, ON - T&M - Exp. - Business Plan - Clothing Wear .....			\$3,750
Edward Botham, Thunder Bay, ON - Youth - Business Plan - Renovations .....			\$938
Eicka's Variety Store, Eskasoni 3 NS - Modernize Existing Variety Store .....			\$1,286
Elijah Awashisha & Calvin Blacksmith, Mistissini, QC - Jeune - Implantation - Sporting Goods Retail .....			\$56,000
Elmer Ames, Amaranth, MB - Youth - Est Feedlot Cleaning Business (Business Plan) .....			\$1,500
Elmer Ames, Amaranth, MB - Youth - Est Feedlot Cleaning Business (Business Support) .....			\$1,080
Elmer Ames, Amaranth, MB - Youth - Est Feedlot Cleaning Business .....			\$23,900
Force Trucking Corp, Fort St John, BC - Youth - Est - Tank Truck Service .....			\$4,500
Force Trucking Corp, Peace River, BC - Youth - Est Truck Tanker Hauling Business .....			\$60,000
Forestland Support Service Ltd., Buffalo Narrows, SK - T&M Marketing for Confectionary Store (Business Support) .....			\$2,250
Forestland Support Service Ltd., Buffalo Narrows, SK - T&M Marketing for Confectionary Store .....			\$5,000
Graham Murdock, Saskatoon, SK - Trade/Dom - Market New Dry Cleaning Business .....			\$4,800
Graham Murdock, Saskatoon, SK - Trade/Dom - Market New Dry Cleaning Business .....			\$1,735
Graham Murdock, Saskatoon, SK - Trade/Dom - Market New Dry Cleaning Business .....			\$5,040
Green Lake Metis Wood Products Ltd., Green Lake, SK - Innov Prod Improv - Exp Add Wook Finger Jointing Operation .....			\$100,000
Gregory Chartrand, Nipissing, ON - Youth - Business Plan - Trucking - Logging & Gravel .....			\$4,125
Handprint Systems Inc., Vancouver, BC - Youth - Business Plan To Est Computer Retail Outlet .....			\$4,500
Handprint Systems Inc., Vancouver, BC - Youth - Business Support for Computer Retail Outlet .....			\$5,850
Handprint Systems Inc., Vancouver, BC - Youth - Est Computer Retail Outlet .....			\$75,000
Harley David Bruised Head, Standoff, AB - Youth - Est Cow/Calf Operation (Business Plan) .....			\$3,750
Indigenous Bar Assoc, Ottawa, ON - Innovation - Assist With 13th Annual Conference .....			\$25,000
Indigenous Bar Assoc, Saskatoon, SK - Fund National Tribunal Conference .....			\$25,000
Iqaluit Electronic Amusements Ltd., Iqaluit, NU - Electronic Amusement Arcade .....			\$52,400
Iqaluit Electronic Amusements Ltd., Iqaluit, NU - Electronic Amusement Arcade .....			\$3,600
Irene Neeposh, Waswanipi, QC - Tourism Plan D'affaires Pour Hotel .....			\$9,975
Iroquois Water Ltd., Cornwall, ON - Capital - Bottled Water .....			\$15,000
Iroquois Water Ltd., Cornwall, ON - Consulting/ Aftercare - Bottled Water .....			\$35,915
Jac's Pawnshop, Richibucto, NB - Est Pawn Shop .....			\$2,864
James Arce, Edmonton, AB - Youth - Est Mobile Pc Service .....			\$6,000
James Boyd, Edmonton, AB - Youth - Est Mobile Pc Service (Aftercare) .....			\$1,500
James Dickson Enterprises Inc., Delta, BC - Youth - To Est a Women's Fitness Facility .....			\$25,000
James Labelle, Thunder Bay, ON - Youth - Business Plan - Logging Industry .....			\$5,719
James Moar et Clement Moar, Mashteuiatsh, QC - Relais de Passants et Travailleurs En Foret .....			\$6,343
James P. Van Buekenhout, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Est Flight Training School .....			\$25,000
James P. Van Buekenhout, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Est Flight Training School (Business Support) .....			\$3,000
Jamie Wasnie, Selkirk, MB - Youth - Est. Taxidermy Business .....			\$3,000
Jamie Wasnie, Selkirk, MB - Youth - Est. Taxidermy Business .....			\$25,000
Janelle M. Cocknet, Inuvik, NT - Youth - Est Dress Making & Alterations .....			\$12,765
Janine Anne Wesley, Attawapiskat, ON - T&M Exp - Marketing - Bakery & Coffee Shop .....			\$3,000
Jerrid Allan Hector Quintal, Calahoo, AB - Youth - Est Sewer Repair & Installation .....			\$22,000
Jerrid Allan Hector Quintal, Calahoo, AB - Youth - Est Sewer Repair & Installation (Aftercare) .....			\$2,250
Jim & Agnes Etherington, Moosonee Dev. Area, ON - Capital - Tourism - Bed & Breakfast .....			\$38,000
Jim & Agnes Etherington, Moosonee Dev. Area, ON - Business Support - Tourism - Bed & Breakfast .....			\$3,450
Jim & Agnes Etherington, Moosonee Dev. Area, ON - Marketing - Tourism - Bed & Breakfast .....			\$4,380
Jody Wittchen Professional Corp, Edmonton, AB - Youth - Mod Dental Practice (Business Plan) .....			\$2,025
Jody Wittchen Professional Corp, Edmonton, AB - Youth - Mod Dental Practice .....			\$75,000
Joe & Juanita Iron Shirt, Cardston, AB - Youth - Exp Cow/Calf Business (Business Plan) .....			\$3,750
Joe Deom Associates, Kahnawake, QC - Engineering Services .....			\$24,985
John W. Kozak, Fort Macleod, Ab - Youth - Exp Landscaping Business .....			\$42,700
Jonathan Paul, Eskasoni, NS - Capital Project - Arcade/Fast Food Take-out Business .....			\$8,997
Jonathan Paul, Eskasoni, NS - Marketing Assistance - Sinage, Grand Opening & Point of Sale System for Arcade & Fast Food Take Out Business .....			\$2,848
Jonathan Paul, Eskasoni 3 NS - Business Support - Accounting for Arcade & Fast Food Take-Out Business .....			\$2,250
Joseph Dunstan, Lytton, BC - Tour - Est an Eco-Tourism Trail Ride .....			\$3,375
Joseph Laplante, Saskatoon, SK - Youth Exp Aboriginal Recording Business .....			\$9,465
Joseph Laplante, Saskatoon, SK - Youth Exp Aboriginal Recording Business (Business Support) .....			\$1,500
Joseph Levesque, the Pas, MB - Youth - Est Floor Cleaning Business .....			\$1,875
Joseph Levesque, the Pas, MB - Youth - Est Floor Cleaning Business .....			\$15,350
Joshua Duncan, Fort St James, BC - Youth - Est a Convenience Store .....			\$30,000
Judy Klassen, St Theresa Point, MB - Youth - Est Laundromat (Business Plan) .....			\$1,500
Judy Klassen, Winnipeg, MB - Youth - Est Laundromat (Business Support) .....			\$3,750
Judy Klassen, Winnipeg, MB - Youth - Est Laundromat .....			\$45,600
Justin Michael Hicock, Winnipeg, MB - Youth - Est Mobile Car Wash .....			\$17,000
Justin Rivard, Coquitlam, BC - Marketing - To Do Marketing for Native Art Business .....			\$13,110
Kan Go Roo Playground (1998) Ltd., Eel River, NB - New Equipment & Welding Certification .....			\$16,500
Kan Go Roo Playground (1998) Ltd., Eel River, NB - Business Support - New Equipment & Welding Certification .....			\$10,890
Kanento Patton, Kahnawake, QC - Youth - Golf Club .....			\$75,000
Keith Desjardins, Marcelin, SK - Youth Expand Cow/Calf Operation .....			\$42,800
Keith Desjardins, Marcelin, SK - Youth Expand Cow/Calf Operation (Business Plan) .....			\$1,500
Kelvin & Lori Dionne, Consol, MB - Youth - Acq Garage/Convenience Store/Small Motor Repair .....			\$75,000
Kelvin & Lori Dionne, Consol, MB - Youth - Acq Garage/Conv Store/Small Motor Repair (Business Support) .....			\$3,750
Kerri Commanda, Massey, ON - Capital - Youth - Equestrian Centre, Bed & Breakfast Farm			

# Aboriginal Business Grants

Name	location	purpose of funding	\$ amount
Experience .....	\$75,000	Linwest Construction Inc., Saskatoon, SK - Youth - Expand Construction Business .....	\$50,955
Kevin F. Nisyok, Terrace, BC - Youth - To Expand On Fishing Business .....	\$55,990	Linwest Construction Inc. (Tbi), Saskatoon, SK - Youth - Expand Construction Business (Business Plan) .....	\$2,250
Kevin Graham, Thunder Bay, ON - Youth - Business Support - Retail Mattress Store .....	\$1,500	Linwest Construction Inc. (Tbi), Saskatoon, SK - Youth - Expand Construction Business (Business Support) .....	\$3,000
Kevin Graham, Thunder Bay, ON - Youth - Marketing - Retail Mattress Store .....	\$18,334	Lisa & Harry Messenger, Alderville, ON - Innovation - Business Plan - Cleaning Co. Developing Own Products .....	\$3,206
Kevin Graham, Thunder Bay, ON - Youth - Capital - Est Retail Mattress Store .....	\$56,403	Lisa Kennedy, Southwold, ON - Youth - Business Plan - Tile Business .....	\$2,869
Kim Merke, Dauphin, MB - Modernize Auto Electric Business (Business Support) .....	\$10,500	Lisa Kennedy, Southwold, ON - Youth - Business Support - Tile & Marble .....	\$2,812
Kim Merke, Dauphin, MB - Marketing - Auto Electric Business (Marketing) .....	\$10,000	Lisa Kennedy, Southwold, ON - Youth - Capital - Est Tile & Marble Business .....	\$28,223
Kinistin Bison Inc., Tisdale, SK - Trade & Market Expansion of Bison Products .....	\$24,000	Lisa Kennedy, Southwold, ON - Youth - Marketing - Tile & Marble .....	\$1,200
Kirby KriLOW, Surrey, BC - High Know - Est Digital Video Service (Aftercare) .....	\$750	Lisa Marie L'hirondelle, High Prairie, AB - Youth - Acq Movie Store (Business Plan) .....	\$3,000
Kirby KriLOW, Surrey, BC - High Know - Est Digital Video Service .....	\$12,000	Lisa Marie Peterson, Michipicoten, ON - Youth - Business Plan - Convenience Store .....	\$3,225
Kirk J. Brant, Tyendinaga, ON - Youth - Capital - Textile Screen Printing .....	\$34,375	Lori Brinson, Division 8, NFLD - Hair & Beauty Salon .....	\$1,800
Kirk J. Brant, Tyendinaga, ON - Youth - Business Plan - Textile Screen Printing .....	\$3,000	Lori Brinson, Division 8, NFLD - Capital - Hair & Beauty Salon .....	\$12,880
Kitikmeot Corp., Cambridge Bay, NU - Coordinate & Host the 6th Annual Nunavut Mining Symposium in Cambridge Bay .....	\$24,600	Lynda Cayer, Kitigan Zibi, Qc - Physiotherapy Clinic .....	\$23,200
Kitsaki Meats Ltd. Partnership, La Ronge, SK - Attend Trade Shows in Europe .....	\$19,020	Mawiw Council Inc., Fredericton, NB - Host Celebration for National Aboriginal Day - June 21 & 22, 2001 .....	\$10,100
KNR Paving Co. Ltd., Winnipeg, MB - Trade & Mkt Expansion - Marketing for Paving Co. (Business Support) .....	\$15,000	Melinda Chapdelaine, Sarnia, ON, Youth - Capital - Est Dollar Store .....	\$44,408
KNR Paving Co. Ltd., Winnipeg, MB - Trade & Market Exp - Marketing for Paving Co. .....	\$6,000	Melinda Chapdelaine, Sarnia, ON, Youth - Marketing - Est Dollar Store .....	\$5,082
Kocsis Transport Ltd., Saskatoon, SK - Innov Prod Improv Dev Profitability Improvement Strategy .....	\$26,820	Melissa R. Koke, North Battleford, SK - Youth Acquire Hair Salon (Business Support) .....	\$1,500
Kris Prince, Prince George, BC - Youth - To Do a Business Plan for Logging Business .....	\$4,875	Melissa R. Koke, North Battleford, SK - Youth Acquire Hair Salon .....	\$12,500
Kris Prince, Prince George, BC - Youth - Est Logging .....	\$77,500	Metis Nation of Alberta Assoc, Zone 3, Calgary, AB - Est Contracting Business .....	\$17,500
Kristen Kennedy, Wallaceburg, ON - Capital - Youth - Promotional Items .....	\$9,621	Middleton Building Supplies Ltd., Broadview, SK - Youth Business Support for Building Supply Store .....	\$750
Kristen Kennedy, Wallaceburg, ON - Marketing - Youth - Promotional Items .....	\$7,716	Mohawk International Lacrosse, Cornwall, ON - Lacrosse Stick Manufacturer .....	\$68,760
Kristen Roberts, Slave Lake, AB - Youth - Est Convenience Store (Business Plan) .....	\$10,875	Mohawk Rock Manufacturing, Six Nations, ON - T&M Exp - Business Support - Faux Stone Manufacturing .....	\$9,375
Kristjan Hayden, Winnipeg, MB - Youth - Est Prof Makeup Artis Serv & Sup Bus .....	\$14,800	Moose Horn Dist. Co. Ltd., Saskatoon, SK - Youth Acquire Nutrition Store Franchise (Business Plan) .....	\$3,375
Last Oak Golf & Country Club Inc., Cowessess, SK - T&M Market Golf Course .....	\$11,280	Moose Horn Dist. Co. Ltd., Saskatoon, SK - Youth Acquire Nutrition Store Franchise (Business Support) .....	\$1,500
Leah Lantz, Rapid View, SK - Youth - Est Cow/ Calf Operation (Business Plan) .....	\$1,590	Moose Horn Dist. Co. Ltd., Saskatoon, SK - Youth Acquire Nutrition Store Franchise .....	\$75,000
Leah Lantz, Rapid View, SK - Youth - Est Cow/ Calf Operation (Business Support) .....	\$2,350	Natanis Davidsen, Meadow Lake, SK - Innov Prod Improv Exp & Market Beauty Salon .....	\$2,750
Leah Lantz, Rapid View, SK - Youth - Est Cow/ Calf Operation .....	\$37,500	Natanis Davidsen, Meadow Lake, SK - Innov Prod Improv Exp & Market Beauty Salon .....	\$13,785
Leah Nelson Guay, Calgary, AB - Youth - Est Consulting .....	\$18,000	Queneesh Dev. Inc., Courtenay, BC - Marketing -	
Leelie Enterprise Ltd., Broughton Island, NU - Souvenir Shop .....	\$8,025		
Leon Crouse, Burns Lake, BC - Youth - Business Plan to Expand Sawmill Business .....	\$8,190		
		(Marketing) .....	\$3,000
		Natanis Davidsen, Meadow Lake, SK - Innov Prod Improv Exp & Market Beauty Salon (Business Support) .....	\$2,250
		National Aboriginal Achievement Found., Toronto, ON - Youth - Taking Pulse Aboriginal - Youth Forum .....	\$20,000
		National Aboriginal Achievement Found., Toronto, ON - T&M Exp. - Naaf Business Achievements Awards .....	\$200,000
		Native Communications Inc., Thompson, MB - Innov - Expand Radio Broadcasting .....	\$50,000
		Natures' Way Massage Therapy, Yarmouth, NS - Est a Massage Therapy Business in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia .....	\$5,921
		Natures' Way Massage Therapy, Yarmouth, NS - Business Support for Massage Therapy Business in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia .....	\$1,550
		Natures' Way Massage Therapy, Yarmouth, NS - Marketing for Massage Therapy Business in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia .....	\$2,880
		Nelson House Dev. Corp, Nelson House, MB - Tourism - Est Arts & Crafts Show & Other Tourism Services .....	\$3,750
		Nelson House Dev. Corp, Nelson House, MB - Tourism - Est Arts & Crafts Show & Other Tourism Services .....	\$25,000
		Nick Carpenter & Robert Gernyn, Bella Bella, BC - Youth - Do Business Plan for Arcade Business .....	\$2,250
		Nicole V. Trochie, Meadow Lake, SK - Youth Expand Sheep Farm .....	\$750
		Nicole V. Trochie, Meadow Lake, SK - Youth Expand Sheep Farm .....	\$10,750
		Nishnawbe Aski Dev. Fund, Thunder Bay, ON - Keynote Speaker for Nan Business Awards .....	\$5,800
		Nurture Software Inc., Surrey, BC - New Product/ Proc - Develop New Software .....	\$24,060
		O2 Spa Bath Inc., Toronto, ON - Innovation - Capital - Oxygen Products .....	\$49,725
		O2 Spa Bath Inc., Toronto, ON - Innovation - Marketing - Oxygen Products .....	\$25,275
		O2 Spa Bath Inc., Toronto, ON - Innovation - Business Support - Oxygen Products .....	\$4,125
		Osontio Janice Gabriel, Oka, QC - Youth - Horse Riding - Capital Operating .....	\$59,020
		Osontio Janice Gabriel, Oka, QC - Youth - Horse Riding - Marketing .....	\$13,640
		Osontio Janice Gabriel, Oka, QC - Youth - Horse Riding - Business Support .....	\$2,340
		Pamela Detlor, Stratford, ON - T&M Inc. Tourism - Capital - Bed & Breakfast .....	\$26,056
		Pamela Detlor, Stratford, ON - Marketing - Tourism - Bed & Breakfast .....	\$3,846
		Preston Pashe, Portage La Prairie, MB - Youth - Est Driving Range & Miniature Golf Course (Business Plan) .....	\$6,000
		Prince Albert Dev. Corp, Prince Albert, SK - Trade/Dom Marketing for Hotels (Cc) .....	\$5,861
		Prince Albert Dev. Corp, Prince Albert, SK - Trade/Dom Marketing for Hotels (Marketing) .....	\$13,785

# Aboriginal Business Grants

Name	location	purpose of funding	\$ amount
Do a Marketing Plan for Art Gallery .....	Queeneesh Dev. Inc., Courtenay, BC - Tourism - To Est. Art Gallery Business (Marketing) .....	Spirit Staffing & Consulting Inc., Calgary, AB - Trade/Dom - Market Aboriginal Staffing (Business Plan) .....	\$4,116 \$25,000
Queeneesh Dev. Inc., Courtenay, BC - Marketing - Do a Marketing Plan for Art Gallery (Business Support) .....	Rad Industries Inc., Calgary, AB - New Prod - Exp Automotive Business .....	Spirit Staffing & Consulting Inc., Calgary, AB - Trade/Dom - Market Aboriginal Staffing (Marketing) .....	\$6,588 \$6,000
Ralph P. Beaulieu Jr., Ebb & Flow, MB - Youth - Est. Custom Haycutting Operation .....	Ralph P. Beaulieu Jr., Ebb & Flow, MB - Youth - Est. Custom Built Guitars .....	Spring Carter, Six Nations, ON - Youth - Bus Plan - Coordinator/Fund Raising Consulting... ..	\$25,000 \$2,500
Richard & Rose Richardson, Green Lake, SK - Eco T Est Art Gallery/Coffee House .....	Richard & Rose Richardson, Green Lake, SK - Eco T Est Art Gallery/Coffee House .....	Starlen Thistle, Glenwood, NFLD - Market Expansion - Chicken Cooking Machine .....	\$4,500 \$45,993
Richard & Rose Richardson, Green Lake, SK - Eco T Est Art Gallery/Coffee House .....	Richard & Rose Richardson, Green Lake, SK - Eco T Est Art Gallery/Coffee House .....	STC Urban First Nations Services Inc., Saskatoon, SK - Host Youth Conference .....	\$7,047 \$3,600
Ricky Bently Blacksmith, Mistissini, QC - Youth Business Plan for Tire Business .....	Riel Sidney, Teslin, YT - Youth - To Est a Mini-Golf Amusement Park .....	Steeve Gros-Louis, Wendake, QC - Agrandissement D'un Restaurant .....	\$3,600 \$23,200
Riel Sidney, Teslin, YT - Youth - Business Support a Mini-Golf Amusement Park .....	Riel Sidney, Teslin, YT - Youth - Business Support a Mini-Golf Amusement Park .....	Steve Edgar Tipton, Powell River, BC - Tourism - Est a Zodiac Tour Business .....	\$1,500 \$1,500
Ronald Sawatsky, Chitek Lake, SK - Youth Est Restaurant (Business Support) .....	Riel Sidney, Teslin, YT - Youth - Business Support a Mini-Golf Amusement Park .....	Stewart & Shawn Toth, Leask, SK - Youth Exp Cow/Calf Operation .....	\$1,500 \$1,500
Ronald Sawatsky, Chitek Lake, SK - Youth Est Restaurant (Business Plan) .....	Ronald Sawatsky, Chitek Lake, SK - Youth Est Restaurant .....	Stewart & Shawn Toth, Leask, SK - Youth Exp Cow/Calf Operation (Business Support) .....	\$3,382 \$51,574
Ronald Sawatsky, Chitek Lake, SK - Youth Est Restaurant .....	Ronald Sawatsky, Chitek Lake, SK - Youth Est Restaurant .....	Stoney Tribal Administration, Morley, AB - Cultural Tourism - Est Aboriginal Tourism Centre (Business Plan) .....	\$1,200 \$3,382
Ronald Sawatsky, Chitek Lake, SK - Youth Est Restaurant (Marketing) .....	Ronald Sawatsky, Chitek Lake, SK - Youth Est Restaurant .....	Stephan Villeneuve, Wendake, QC - Publication Mensuelle .....	\$1,200 \$3,000
Rsj Transmission Auto Service, Winnipeg, MB - Marketing - Est Transmission Repair Service .....	Rsj Transmission Auto Service, Winnipeg, MB - Marketing - Est Transmission Repair Service .....	Sylvia Thomas, Burns Lake, BC - Youth - Est a Gas Bar/Service Station .....	\$4,200 \$4,500
Sarah Moar, Chisasibi, QC - Pizza Take Out Snack .....	Sarah Moar, Chisasibi, QC - Pizza Take Out Snack .....	Takaya Tours Inc., Burrard Inlet, BC - Tourism - Cultural Canoe Tour .....	\$2,250 \$61,000
Showoff Film & Video Inc., Edmonton, AB - Assist With the International Aboriginal Music Festival .....	Showoff Film & Video Inc., Edmonton, AB - Assist With the International Aboriginal Music Festival .....	Tale'awtaw Aboriginal Capital Corp., Chilliwack, BC - Extend Aboriginal Youth Business Initiative .....	\$25,000 \$81,800
Sigurdur Sigurdson, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Est Dental Supply Business .....	Sigurdur Sigurdson, Dauphin, MB - Youth - Est Dental Supply Business .....	Tammy Burston, Strathroy, ON - Youth - Business Plan - Business Acquisition (Greeting Cards/Giftware/Collectibles) .....	\$1,500 \$1,350
Societe de Credit Comercial Autochtone, Wendake, QC - Xdo .....	Societe de Credit Comercial Autochtone, Wendake, QC - Xdo .....	Tania Kendall, Cadillac, SK - Youth Exp Cattle Ranch (Business Plan) .....	\$134,274 \$2,250
Societe de Credit Comercial Autochtone, Wendake, QC - Carnival Quebec .....	Societe de Credit Comercial Autochtone, Wendake, QC - Carnival Quebec .....	Tania Kendall, Cadillac, SK - Youth Exp Cattle Ranch (Business Support) .....	\$25,000 \$3,600
Societe Touristique des Autochtones du Quebec, Wendake, QC - Rendez-Vous Autochtone 2002 .....	Societe Touristique des Autochtones du Quebec, Wendake, QC - Rendez-Vous Autochtone 2002 .....	Tania Kendall, Cadillac, SK - Youth Exp Cattle Ranch .....	\$50,000 \$36,900
Societe Touristique des Autochtones du Quebec, Wendake, QC - Tourisme .....	Societe Touristique des Autochtones du Quebec, Wendake, QC - Tourisme .....	Tanya Eagle Speaker, Cardston, AB - Youth - Est Embroidery Shop (Business Plan) .....	\$60,000 \$1,500
Southern First Nations Secretariat, Southwold, ON - T/M Exp - Export Workshop .....	Southern First Nations Secretariat, Southwold, ON - T/M Exp - Export Workshop .....	Teck World 2000, Summerside, PEI - Business Support - Computer Sales & Service Business .....	\$538 \$4,060
Spirit of Youth Enterprises Inc., Brandon, MB - Innov - Est Ab Youth Lifestyle & Career Info Interaction Web business Support & Magazine (Business Plan) .....	Spirit of Youth Enterprises Inc., Brandon, MB - Innov - Est Ab Youth Lifestyle & Career Info Interaction Web business Support & Magazine .....	Teck World 2000, Summerside, PEI - Marketing - Computer Sales & Service Business .....	\$4,500 \$2,520
Spirit of Youth Enterprises Inc., Brandon, MB - Innov - Est Ab Youth Lifestyle & Career Info Interaction Web business Support & Magazine .....	Spirit of Youth Enterprises Inc., Brandon, MB - Innov - Est Ab Youth Lifestyle & Career Info Interaction Web business Support & Magazine .....	Teck World 2000, Summerside, PEI - Marketing Consulting - Computer Sales & Service Business .....	\$32,580 \$1,650
Spirit of Youth Enterprises Inc., Brandon, MB - Innov - Est Ab Youth Lifestyle & Career Info Interaction Web business Support & Magazine (Business Support) .....	Spirit of Youth Enterprises Inc., Brandon, MB - Innov - Est Ab Youth Lifestyle & Career Info Interaction Web business Support & Magazine (Business Support) .....	Teresa & Levi Blackwater, Standoff, AB - Prod Imp - Exp Grocery Outlet .....	\$3,375 \$19,058
		Teresa L. Morishita, Surrey, BC - Trade/Dom - Exp a Judo Uniforms Business (Market) .....	\$3,900
		Terry E. Cooke, Dawson Creek, BC - Eco-Tour - To Acquire an Aircraft To Est a Eco-Tourism Business .....	\$3,375
		Terry Mymryk, Winnipeg, MB - Innov - Est Embroidery Design & Silkscreening Business (Business Plan) .....	\$2,250
		Terry Sutherland, Factory Island, ON - Youth - Marketing - Woodwork & Construction .....	\$1,200
		Terry Sutherland, Factory Island, ON - Youth - Capital - Carpentry & Home Repairs .....	\$58,492
		Terry Sutherland, Factory Island, ON - Youth - Business Support - Woodwork & Const. .....	\$750
		The Banff Centre, Banff, AB - Support Symposium On Aboriginal Business .....	\$35,000
		The Cree Construction & Dev. Co. Ltd., Laval, QC - Cree Nation of Chisasibi .....	\$80,250
		The Cree Construction & Dev. Co. Ltd., Verdun, QC - Cree Regional Economic Ent. .....	\$74,250
		The Ekohawk Farms Corp, Cornwall, ON - Pisciculture .....	\$72,375
		The Ekohawk Farms Corp, Cornwall, ON - Pisciculture .....	\$2,625
		River Gathering Inc., Ile-a-La-Crosse, SK - Youth - Hold Business Dev. Conference for Northern Saskatchewan .....	\$10,000
		The Warehouse Skatepark Inc., St John's, NFLD - Indoor Skatepark .....	\$2,250
		Timothy Maitland, Kitimat, BC - Youth - To Acquire a Gas Station .....	\$52,000
		Timothy Maitland, Kitimat, BC - Youth - Business Support for a Gas Station Business .....	\$2,250
		Tina Prichard, Kelowna, BC - Youth - Est a Herbal Tea Blending & Packing Business .....	\$9,000
		Tina Sember, Delta, BC - Trade/Exp - Dev Web business Support (Marketing) .....	\$9,462
		Tom Gray, Cat Lake, ON - Tourism - Bus Plan - Purchase Base Lodge for 3 Outposts .....	\$7,362
		Tomahawk Testing & Production Services Inc., Red Deer, AB - Youth - Est Well Testing .....	\$60,000
		Tomahawk Testing & Production Services Inc., Red Deer, AB - Youth - Est Well Testing (Aftercare) .....	\$750
		Top Pro Industries Ltd., Langley, BC - Youth - Acquire a Home Furnishing Store .....	\$75,000
		Treaty Four Holding Corp., Fort Qu'Appelle, SK - Cultural T Est Café in Visitors Centre .....	\$92,336
		Treaty Four Holding Corp., Fort Qu'Appelle, SK - Cultural T Est Café in Visitors Centre (Marketing) .....	\$3,900
		Treaty Four Holding Corp., Fort Qu'Appelle, SK - Cultural T Est Café in Visitors Centre (Business Support) .....	\$3,750
		Treaty Seven Economic Dev. Corp, Calgary, AB - Participate in Youth Camp .....	\$5,000
		Treaty Seven Economic Dev. Corp, Calgary, AB - Extend Aboriginal Youth Business Initiative .....	\$68,500
		Trent Potskin, Fraser-Fort George, BC - Youth - Do a Business Plan for Logging Truck Business .....	\$3,000
		Trent Potskin, Willow River, BC - Youth - for	



# Aboriginal Business Grants

Name	location	purpose of funding	\$ amount
Logging Truck Business.....	\$45,000	(Business Plan) .....	\$4,500
Trevor P. Goffinet, Ponteix, SK - Youth Est		Vaughn G. Murray, Rainy River, ON - Eco &	
Trucking Business (Business Plan).....	\$2,100	Cultural Tourism - Est Guiding Services	
Trevor P. Goffinet, Ponteix, SK - Youth Est		(Marketing) .....	\$7,200
Trucking Business (Business		Vaughn G. Murray, Rainy River, ON - Eco &	
Support) .....	\$3,600	Cultural Tourism - Est Guiding Services	
Trevor P. Goffinet, Ponteix, SK - Youth Est		(Business Support) .....	\$4,500
Trucking Business.....	\$30,000	Vaughn G. Murray, Rainy River, ON - Eco &	
Tribal Resources Investment Corp, Prince Ru-		Cultural Tourism - Est Guiding Serv ..	\$39,000
pert, BC - Xdo - To Maintain External Delivery		Vern Peake, Edson, AB - Youth - Exp Trucking	
Program .....	\$242,999	Business (Business Plan) .....	\$300
Tribal Wi-Chi-Way-Win Capital Corp, Winnipeg,		Vern Peake, Edson, AB - Youth - Exp Trucking	
MB - Delegate To World Summit Conference		Business .....	\$25,000
- Brussels .....	\$42,250	Verteco Processing Ltd., St. Albert, AB - New	
Tribal Wi-Chi-Way-Win Capital Corp, Winnipeg,		Prod/Proc - Est Tire Shredding .....	\$70,000
MB - Est Student Loan Fee for Service		Vicki Nettleton, McMunn, MB - Trade - Expand	
Business (Business Plan) .....	\$12,750	Bakery To Winnipeg (Marketing) .....	\$2,100
Tribal Wi-Chi-Way-Win Capital Corp, Winnipeg,		Victor Bonspille, Oka, QC - Restaurant -	
MB - Extend Aboriginal Youth Business		Café .....	\$22,330
Initiative .....	\$220,000	Victor Bonspille, Oka, QC - Restaurant -	
Troy D. Young, Kamloops, BC - Youth - Est		Café .....	\$1,620
Logging Truck Business (Business		Victor Bonspille, Oka, QC - Restaurant -	
Plan).....	\$3,000	Café .....	\$1,050
Troy D. Young, Kamloops, BC - Youth - Est		Vincent Levesque, Wendake, QC - Creation	
Logging Truck Business.....	\$65,000	Publicitaire, Strategie Marketing, Conception	
Tsuu T'ina Golf & Country Club, Calgary, AB -		Graphique .....	\$10,125
Prod Imp - Mod Golf Course .....	\$13,288	VTL Transport Ltd., Athabasca, AB - Youth - Est	
Turn Around Production Ltd., Calgary, AB - High		Log Transport (Business Plan).....	\$1,875
Know - Develop Marketing Plan (Business		VTL Transport Ltd., Athabasca, AB - Youth - Est	
Plan).....	\$3,750	Log Transport .....	\$40,000
Two Rivers Community Dev. Corp., Six Nations,		VTL Transport Ltd., Athabasca, AB - Youth - Est	
ON - T&M Exp. - Marketing - Marketing for		Log Transport (Aftercare).....	\$750
Local Business .....	\$16,585	Waabang Miikana Inc., Winnipeg, MB - Youth	
Ulnooewg Dev. Group Inc., Millbrook, NS -		- Acq Shares of Western Micro Systems	
Attend the Afr-Nexus 2001 Business Confer-		(Valuation).....	\$1,125
ence, Wtcc Halifax, NS .....	\$812	Waabang Miikana Inc., Winnipeg, MB - Youth -	
Ulnooewg Dev. Group Inc., Millbrook, NS -		Acq Shares of Western Micro	
Create a Business Directory of Nova Scotia		Systems .....	\$69,500
Aboriginal Companies .....	\$6,300	Waasitaau Corp, Mistissini, QC - Construction	
Ulnooewg Dev. Group Inc., Millbrook, NS - To		Centre D'achats .....	\$75,000
Host a Three Day Power Talk Communica-		Wagmatcook Culture & Heritage Centre,	
tions Training Course .....	\$5,186	Richmond, NS - Contract Services of Kavo	
Ulnooewg Dev. Group Inc., Truro, NS - Extend		Consulting Services .....	\$6,140
Aboriginal Youth Business Initiative ..	\$183,000	Wagmatcook Culture & Heritage Centre, Rich-	
Ulnooewg Dev. Group Inc., Truro, NS - Top-Up		mond, NS - Marketing Plan Including Hosting	
Capitalization Fund .....	\$500,000	a Grand Opening for the Culture & Heritage	
Ultimate Playtime Holistic Adventures Inc.,		Centre .....	\$52,041
Canmore, AB - Eco Tourism - Est Adventure		Wakenagun Community Futures Dev. Corp.,	
Camp .....	\$39,750	Moose Factory, ON - Youth Business Plan	
Union of New Brunswick Indians, Fredericton,		Completion & Attendance of National Youth	
NB - Assist the Cast of Dr. Henry Lickers To		Conference .....	\$16,000
Speak On the Value of Water &		Wasaya Community Economic Dev. Corp., Bear-	
Exports.....	\$3,543	skin Lake, ON - Tourism - Bus Plan - Tourism	
Upper Similkameen Indian Band, Keremeos,		Operation .....	\$18,135
BC - Cultural Tourism - Feasibility Study for		Waubetek Business Dev. Corp., Whitefish River,	
Tourism Project .....	\$25,000	ON - Abori. Business Org. - Waubetek Busi-	
Vanessa Mruk, Enoch, AB - Youth - Est Arts &		ness Awards Dinner .....	\$10,000
Crafts Business .....	\$6,000	Waubetek Business Dev. Corp., Sudbury, ON -	
Vanessa Mruk, Enoch, AB - Youth - Est Arts &		Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge ....	\$10,800
Crafts Business (Aftercare).....	\$750	Waubetek Business Dev. Corp., Whitefish River,	
Vaughn G. Murray, Rainy River, ON - Eco &		ON - Xdo Renewal .....	\$250,000
Cultural Tourism - Est Guiding Services		Waywayseecappo Inn .....Waywayseecappo First	

# *You asked for it...*

## **Government Debt**

Dr. Jones, of Calgary writes “I enjoyed your article on the national debt, but I think you understate the value of total government debts owed.”

Taxpayers are often left with the impression that the federal government’s \$507 billion debt is the total government debt owed by Canadians. In fact, total government debts – federal, provincial and municipal – are far higher.

According to Statistics Canada, in 1999-2000 total government debt was

**“If governments reduced debts like we do with our mortgages, then we would already have more leeway for tax cuts and improvements to key government services.”**

equivalent to more than 80% of our national income (Gross Domestic Product or GDP). That’s a startling figure. Very few taxpayers would keep a credit card balance of \$20,000 or \$50,000 (depending on one’s income) – so why do governments do this?

Since topping more than 100% of national income in 1995-1996, Canadian government debts have declined. If one just considers debt as a percentage of GDP, it might be easy to conclude that in 19 or 21 years all our government debts will be gone. That’s 19 years if we follow the rate of decline in the last 5 years. Unfortunately, concentrating on this ratio only tells us part of the story. For instance, as a percentage

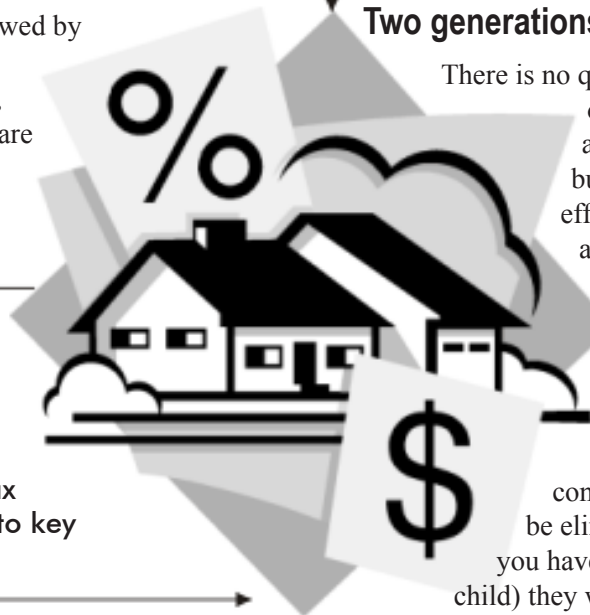
of GDP consolidated debts have declined by 4.2% each year – about the same pace as the economy has grown. Governments like that figure because it looks like their debt situation has greatly improved. But of course total government debt has only declined by about \$6 billion – a modest 0.2% reduction in the actual amount.

### **Two generations to reduce federal debt**

There is no question that growth in our economy helps our ability to pay for and keep our debt on the books, but without real and meaningful efforts to pay it down it won’t go away anytime soon. Big federal surpluses over the last few years and a move to full cost-accrual accounting this year, has resulted in a \$54 billion reduction in federal debt since 1999-2000. If this rate continues, the federal debt could be eliminated in about 40 years. If you have a five-year old child (or grandchild) they will have to help pay for this debt as will his or her children. By not eliminating this debt two more generations will have to contribute their hard earned tax dollars to help eliminate this portion of our total government debts.

### **Growing provincial debt**

Provinces are faring far worse than the federal government. After declining slightly in 2000-2001, provincial debts have now reached a new high of \$294.7 billion (projected for 2003-2004). If the rate of increase between 2002 and 2004 continues, in less than eight years all of the reductions in federal debt that we’ve seen will be offset by growth in provincial debt. Taxpayers in some provinces where debt has



been reduced will see a reduction in debt interest payments but for most provinces the trend is in the opposite direction.

## Today's debt: tomorrow's taxes

Keeping debts on the books ensures higher taxes for future generations, reduced government services and no room for tax cuts. Between 1990 and 2004, provincial debt servicing cost were more than \$288.1 billion. Debt servicing is the third highest spending envelope in every province (except Alberta). In the same time period, federal debt servicing cost \$658.4 billion. For the federal government, debt servicing is the second largest single expenditure; outpacing federal health spending by more than \$15 billion and widely outpacing defence spending.

If governments reduced debts like we do with our mortgages, then we would already have more leeway for tax cuts and improvements to key government services. A mortgage at 6%, on a \$220,000 home results in a total cost (cost of the home plus the cost of servicing the debt at 6% per year for 25 years) of \$372,680. Unlike government debts, between 1990 and 2004 mortgage payments would have reduced the outstanding debt on the \$220,000 by more than half to \$106,000. If the same were true of government debts, these would now be less than \$400 billion.

## Debt reduction

The CTF has fought hard to have debt reduction schedules adopted by all levels of government. Since 1999, the CTF has called for the federal government to



by Bruce Winchester  
National Research Director

have a specific line item devoted to debt repayment. The amount would be equivalent to 10% of the federal government's annual personal income tax revenues (about \$8 billion). In Ontario, the CTF has called for a similar annual line item equivalent to 5% of the province's own source revenues (about \$2.5 billion). These measures would result in the elimination of these two debts in about 20 years, if not sooner.

Governments at all levels have a long way to go on debt reduction. Taxpayers might want to remind politicians of this fact as they meet them on the summer barbecue circuit. In the fall, your CTF will continue to press for real debt reductions in the run up to next year's annual budgets.■

## Consolidated Debt by Order of Government

Select years (\$ Million) / Source: Statistics Canada

Year	Federal	Prov	Local	Total	% of GDP
79-80	\$72,555	\$21,045	\$16,058	\$94,370	36.22%
89-90	333,519	101,510	20,407	455,437	70.66%
95-96	578,718	235,896	22,379	836,994	101.81%
99-00	561,733	256,166	12,462	830,361	80.62%

## Provincial Debt 200-2004; Provincial Budget Basis

Year	NL	PEI	NS	NB	PQ	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	Total
99-00	6,636	1,024	11,220	6,914	89,162	113,715	13,459	11,255	12,020	25,181	289,620
00-01	7,062	1,031	11,370	6,798	89,158	110,634	14,166	11,153	8,195	24,998	283,770
01-02	7,502	1,046	11,561	6,654	92,261	110,190	14,405	11,450	5,998	27,175	287,395
02-03	7,863	1,130	11,646	6,755	94,118	109,706	14,554	11,726	4,761	29,281	290,695
03-04 <sup>P</sup>	7,847	1,165	11,764	6,856	94,118	109,706	15,092	12,209	4,761	32,046	294,718

<sup>P</sup> projection based on budget balance.

Send your questions to: Bruce Winchester c/o Canadian Taxpayers Federation  
Suite 512 - 130 Albert Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5G4  
Fax: (613) 234-7748 E-mail: [brucewin@on.aibn.com](mailto:brucewin@on.aibn.com)



# Around the CTF

Each month, CTF offices in five provinces and Ottawa handle hundreds of media interviews and inquiries, hold press conferences, publish reports, make presentations to governments and issue regular news releases, commentaries and publications to advocate the common interest of taxpayers. CTF representatives also speak at functions and organize major campaigns nationally and in the provinces that lead to public policy change. The following highlights activities for the months of May and June 2003:

## May

**BC:** The CTF responds favourably to the BC government's plans to sell BC Rail. Since the fall of 2002, director Victor Vrsnik has conducted dozens of media interviews and penned several commentaries to build public support including three opinion editorials published in major dailies. Behind the scenes Victor met with the Premier, Minister of Finance, Minister of Transportation and the CEO of BC Rail.

**ALBERTA:** The CTF releases Water Conservation Without Tax Increases to a provincial commission studying user fees to promote water conservation. Authored by director John Carpay, the submission calls for a replacement of existing Alberta taxes, if new water fees are introduced.

**ONTARIO:** Director John Williamson meets with Ontario Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty to discuss CTF policies and priorities. Mr. McGuinty reiterates to John his party's continued support for Ontario's Taxpayer Protections Act, a hard fought CTF victory.

**MANITOBA:** CTF makes an impact during the provincial election. The CTF's widely-publicized election Spend-o-Meter tracked the costs of each party's election promises.

The CTF also provided questions for leaders' debates to CJOB radio, and the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce.

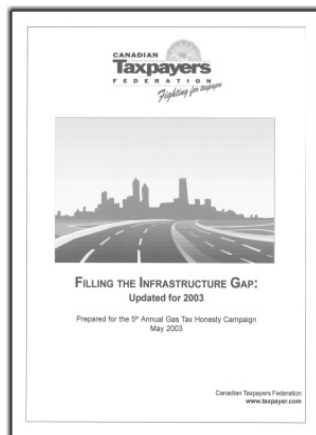
**NATIONAL:** The CTF kicks off its 5<sup>th</sup> annual Gas Tax Honesty Campaign with Gas Tax Honesty Day on May 16<sup>th</sup> (see page 20). Support for the CTF's Municipal Roadway Trust continues to grow with politicians at all levels of government appearing at CTF news conferences across the country.

**FEDERAL:** Director Walter Robinson presents the CTF's Roadway trust model to the annual meeting of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in Winnipeg and meets afterwards with Liberal leadership contender Paul Martin and Finance Minister John Manley.

**ONTARIO:** CTF principles for democratic reform are featured in the Ontario Liberal Party's democratic reform plan. These include: fixed election dates, banning government-funded partisan advertising, and a referendum on changing the voting system.

## June

**CAPC:** Victory! Your CTF wins an appeal in the Treaty 8 taxation case before the Federal Court of Appeal (see story page 24). Directors Tanis Fiss and John Carpay field dozens of media inquiries following the ruling. An opinion edi-



**Soon-to-be Prime Minister Paul Martin embraces recommendations in CTF's Gas Tax Honesty Campaign Report**

torial supporting the appeal court decision authored by Fiss and Carpay appeared in the National Post. Your CTF makes clear that it is prepared to fight for tax equality all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada.

**ONTARIO:** CTF demands the resignation of Ontario Environment Minister Chris Stockwell after it was revealed that he used tax dollars to help pay for his family's European vacation. Minister Stockwell resigns two weeks latter.

**MANITOBA:** The CTF responds unfavourably to Winnipeg Mayor Glen Murray's call for new taxing powers for the City. Director Adrienne Batra forwards the CTF's Municipal Roadway Trust as a better way to meet Winnipeg's infrastructure needs.

**ALBERTA:** The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of California's proposition 13 is marked by various media interviews and an opinion editorial penned by director John Carpay for the Calgary Herald (see story page 12).

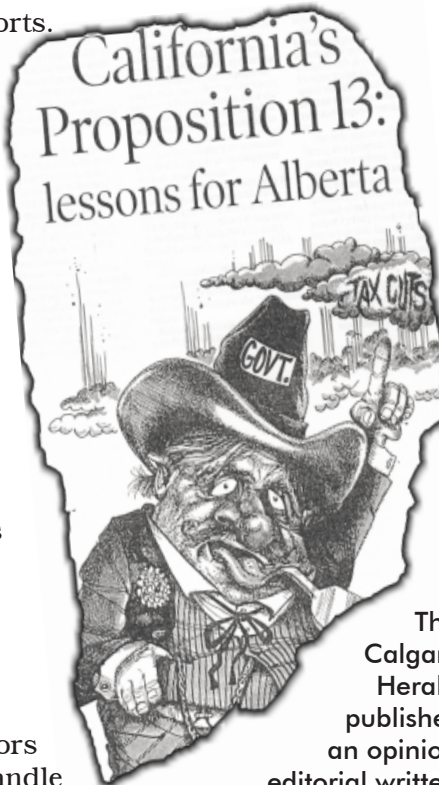
**CAPC:** CTF directors Tanis Fiss and Adrienne Batra author an opinion editorial published in the Winnipeg Sun critical of the City of Winnipeg's plans to create an urban reserve. At issue is preferential tax treatment based on race – a concept long opposed by the CTF.

**SASK:** The CTF releases figures showing that Saskatchewan's five largest crown corporations spent almost \$300,000

on glossy annual reports. SaskEnergy's annual report cost a staggering \$45.72 per copy!

**ALBERTA:** CTF decries \$3.4 billion in over taxation reported by the Alberta Government's Annual Report for fiscal 2002-2003. After boosting taxes by \$641-million in March of 2002, the annual report shows once again that the government has no intention of kicking its addiction to high spending.

**NATIONAL:** CTF directors across the country handle dozens of media interviews in response to the Fraser Institute's announcement that Tax Freedom Day is June 28<sup>th</sup> – two days later than just one year ago!



The Calgary Herald publishes an opinion editorial written by director John Carpay marking the 25th anniversary of California's Proposition 13.

## Activity Report May and June 2003

Office	Media Interviews	Events/ Speeches/ Letters/Releases/ Reports/Meetings/Etc.
<b>Ottawa</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Ontario</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Manitoba</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Alberta</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Sask</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>CAPC*</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>BC</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>213</b>

\* CAPC: Centre for Aboriginal Policy Change.

# Taxing Ports into

by Victor Vrsnik

**M**unicipal leaders run the risk of over-taxing BC ports into extinction. Predatory property taxes are driving the competitiveness out of BC ports and U.S. rivals are lapping up the lost business.

A recent ruling from the BC Property Assessment Appeal Board found that the Terminal Systems container business at Roberts Bank must shell out \$4 million per year in property taxes to Delta. The ruling is another blow to the tax-besieged port industry.

Property taxes on ports have ballooned since 1984 when the province allowed municipalities to charge variable tax rates for different property classifications. Residential tax rates in the District of North Vancouver stayed constant while ports saw their tax bill climb from \$800,000 in 1989 to \$1.7 million in 2001, according to a report by the British Columbia Wharf Operators' Association.


The municipal tax rate on ports in Vancouver is nine times higher than tax rates on residential properties. And the District of North Vancouver charges a tax rate on ports eleven times greater than residential. What for? It can hardly be argued that ports enjoy eleven times

the municipal services that homeowners receive.

Meanwhile, BC ports are losing business such as cruise ship sailings to rival ports in Seattle. U.S. ports enjoy the policy of tax rate parity, meaning ports, homeowners, small business and any other property classifications all pay the same tax rate. And unlike BC ports, US ports pay no prop-

erty require a new assessment valuation.

The BC Assessment Authority establishes property values based on the selling values of comparable properties. But port authorities, in accordance to the



**“The Vancouver Port alone employs about 52,000 people and posts about \$2.9 billion in annual economic activity. It pays \$1 billion in wages and \$620 million in taxes to government. Can British Columbia afford to let another industry fall by the wayside?”**

erty taxes on non-leased port land.

The end result is that BC export terminals are levied a property tax rate of 3 to 6.9 percent of assessed value compared to a low 1.3 percent tax rate charged on US ports.

A low Canadian dollar kept BC ports in business but that single competitive edge has all but disappeared in the wake of the loonie's mercurial rise. Closing the property tax gap with the US will also

Canada Marine Act, cannot be sold or used for non-port activities.

If they can't be sold, they cannot be compared to the set values of other sales data. Nevertheless, the Assessment Authority classifies ports as "heavy industrial" — the property classification with the single highest tax rate.

The economic fallout from predatory property taxes would be staggering. The Vancouver Port alone employs about 52,000 people and



# EXTINCTION

posts about \$2.9 billion in annual economic activity. It pays \$1 billion in wages and \$620 million in taxes to government. Can British Columbia afford to let another industry fall by the

\$20 million. That's twice the cost of the \$10 million investment itself.

Riots would break out if residential property taxes climbed to double the market value of homes but ports are expected to cough up the cash even at their own peril.

Unfair property taxes on ports are investment killers and job killers. Long term investment planning in port facilities are nipped in the bud by the disincentives inherent in high property taxes.

BC ports will find their sea legs again once municipal politicians release the property tax burden. Parity in tax rates will have to be phased in over time to recover lost business opportunity. The Assessment Authority should also find a suitable property classification and assessment valuation system that reflects the true value and use of BC ports.

Plucking too many feathers from the goose that lays golden eggs will eventually run her dry and shift the tax burden to small business and residential homeowners – an intolerable proposition. BC taxpayers are better off with a competitive port industry that pays its fair share of property taxes instead of a dying industry that increasingly can afford none.■

wayside?

The effects of high property taxes cripple not only existing port business but ensure that new investment and job creation occurs south of the border. Based upon 2001 tax rates, a \$10 million port investment in the District of North Vancouver amortized over a period of 20 years would cost over \$12 million in property taxes, argue the BC Wharf Operators' Association. If property tax rates continued to rise at its current pace, the total property tax take would jump up to

## 2010 Winter Olympics

On July 2, 2003 the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced Vancouver-Whistler will host the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. The CTF congratulates the Organizing Committee. The Olympics will showcase our great province and great country.

However, Olympic Games are a taxpayer-backed mega-party that can quickly (pardon the pun) race out of control. Canadian and British Columbia taxpayers cannot afford another 1976 Olympic fiasco. The cost of the Olympic Stadium in Montreal was originally projected at \$120 million but ended up costing taxpayers more than \$1 billion!

Concerned over estimated costs, projected revenue targets and the potential for overruns, the CTF will undertake the arduous task of monitoring the Games' expenses and keep taxpayers informed. We'll hold politicians accountable for what they budget, and no more.

BC auditor-general Wayne Stelioff has cautioned the Olympic Organizing Committee, "These are aggressive revenue targets. If you're going to achieve them, you're going to have to manage them well and be careful."

Be careful indeed. Now let the games begin!■

## Klein's new tax on Alberta businesses

### Millions in new taxes paid to Regional Health Authorities

**W**ords are the sugar coating for the ideas which people swallow. That's why politicians are so adept at sugar-coating taxes by dressing them up as non-taxes, using words like "premium," "levy," "surcharge" and "fee." Clever politicians also invoke good causes to justify tax increases: vulnerable children, clean drinking water, and food inspections. This always sounds

compelling, but doesn't explain why these things can't be funded by the billions and billions of tax dollars which governments are already collecting.

In June of 2002, Premier Klein's cabinet passed a new regulation to allow Regional Health Authorities to charge businesses a new tax, ranging from \$100 to \$500, for "Food Establishment Permits." Food inspections had previously been paid for out of general tax revenues; they are not a new service. The "Food Establishment Permit" and the tax are not limited to restaurants, but must also be paid by drug stores and gas stations which sell chocolate bars and other non-perishables. This new tax must be paid regardless of whether or not a health inspector comes to the business. Food inspections have been taking place for many years – so why a new fee?



by John Carpay  
Alberta Director

A tax has two characteristics. First, it is mandatory, not voluntary. Second, the money that is taken goes to the

government or to a government body or agency. This new "fee" for a "Food Establishment Permit" is mandatory, and the money goes to a government body. Therefore it's a tax.

Regional Health Authorities in Calgary and Edmonton are receiving over \$800,000 each in new tax revenues from businesses. Like all taxes on business, this new fee is being paid for by Albertans as consumers when they purchase food, as employees in the form of lower wages, and as investors and shareholders in the form of lower profits.

The Regional Health Authorities which responded to the CTF's requests for information estimate that in 2002 alone they collected \$2,610,022. This

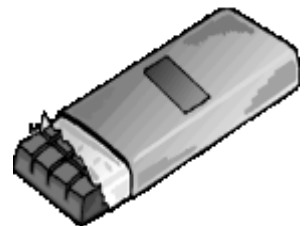
\$2.6 million doesn't include taxes collected in 2003, nor does it include taxes collected by two Regional Health Authorities which refuse to provide information.

The CTF has written to Health Minister Gary Mar requesting his assistance in obtaining information from Regional Health Authorities #9 (Crossroads) and #17 (Northwestern).

This taxation



**“This new ‘fee’ for a ‘Food Establishment Permit’ is mandatory, and the money goes to a government body. Therefore it’s a tax.”**



**“Food establishment permits must also be paid by gas stations which sell chocolates...”**

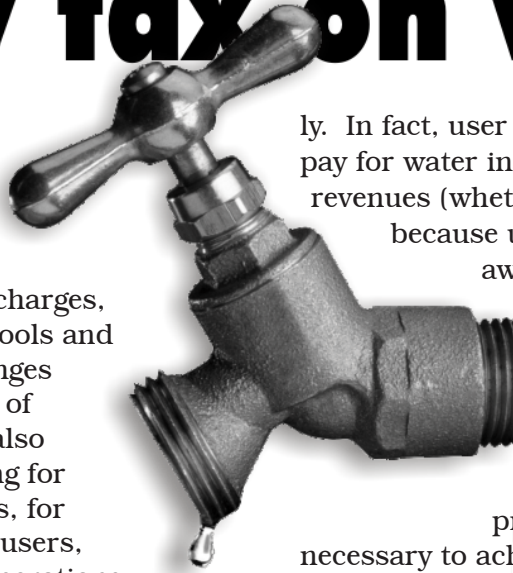
by stealth flies in the face of Premier Klein's pre-election promise that "the only way taxes are going in this province is down."■

# A new tax on water?

A government discussion paper called *Water for Life* suggests developing “a system of water pricing and polluter charges, as well as other economic tools and incentives to stimulate changes in behaviours and patterns of water use.” *Water for Life* also recommends water metering for users on municipal systems, for commercial and industrial users, and for large agricultural operations.

Alberta’s water consumers – including individuals, farms, businesses and industries – ultimately have to pay the full cost of dams, headworks, lake outlet structures, water treatment facilities, water distribution systems, irrigation canals, and drainage canals. This “water management infrastructure” must be maintained and rehabilitated on an ongoing basis.

Water pricing and polluter charges can be good tools to promote water conservation. A system of user fees would give every individual, farm, business and industry in Alberta a direct, tangible and personal incentive to use water efficient-



ly. In fact, user fees can be a better way to pay for water infrastructure than general tax revenues (whether provincial or municipal),

because user fees make consumers aware of the full cost of storing and distributing water. In contrast, the cost of services and programs paid out of general tax revenues is usually not known.

The CTF agrees that proper levels of funding are necessary to achieve long-term sustainability of Alberta’s water management infrastructure. But forcing taxpayers to pay even more

money for water infrastructure is grossly unfair, because provincial and municipal tax revenues are more than adequate.

In this current 2003-04 fiscal year, the Alberta government expects to receive \$21.9 billion in taxes from Albertans – about \$7,000 from every man, woman and child in the province. Alberta now spends more, per person, on government programs than B.C., Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and other Canadian provinces. Alberta simply doesn’t need extra tax revenues, because it already spends too much.■

**Alberta’s program spending is 60% higher than it was seven years ago, while Alberta’s population grew by 14% during that same period.**

## Contact your MLA!

The Alberta Government plans to finalize its decisions about water management in the Fall of 2003. Call your MLA,

and tell him or her that a new tax on water is unacceptable and unnecessary.

User fees can be a good way to promote water

conservation, but only if matched – dollar for dollar – by a reduction in provincial or municipal taxes.■



# Taxpayers' wallets are 'wide open'

The CTF recently publicized government documents showing the province's much-maligned "Our Future is Wide Open" campaign has cost taxpayers \$4.3 million in the nine months since its official launch last fall — \$2.3 million over its original budget.

When faced with reporter's questions about the budget for the campaign, government officials were quick to claim the originally budgeted \$2 million figure was just for the first year of the campaign -- the fiscal year that ended on March 31, 2003. The additional \$2.3 million was spent in the 2003-04 fiscal year, and in actuality, they are right on budget.

The CTF challenged the government to make public the original budget for the campaign -- specifically a budget that predates the initial launch of the campaign. The CTF phone lines and fax machines, while busy with frustrated taxpayer complaints, have not been contacted by a government official willing to provide such documentation.

What are we to assume from their inability to support their claims?

From the outset, the campaign reeked of partisanship and vote-buying. Last November, Premier Calvert stood before a crowd of snacking government workers and NDP supporters and said "... we've got great businesses, great people, and a future that's wide open. Let's tell the world."

It's a great line, and the part about Saskatchewan being a great place is certainly true. The problem comes in the "let's tell the world" part. The million-dollar campaign has little to do with telling the world anything. Instead, the vast majority of the \$4.3 million was spent right here in Saskatchewan. The target audience is you the voting public - and the CTF has the documents to prove it.

In a contracted study conducted by a BC-based communications agency, the target audience is identified as Saskatchewan residents aged 18-49.

According to the study, 58 percent of those surveyed were aware of the campaign's existence. Of those, only 20 per cent reported learning something new about Saskatchewan.

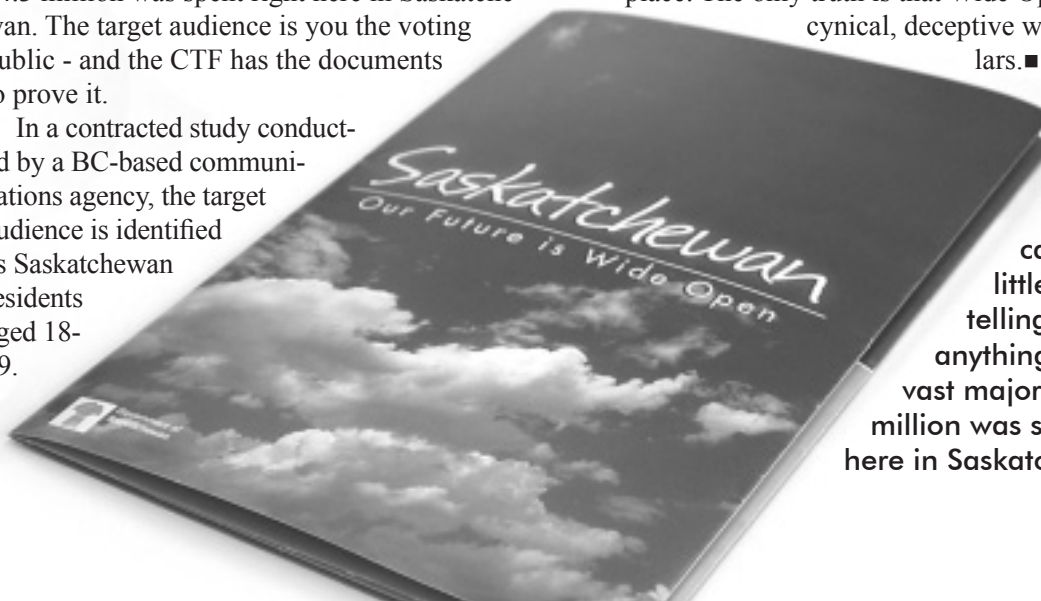
Not only is this campaign a cynical taxpayer-funded effort to re-elect the NDP, it's also not a very good one.

The information obtained by the CTF raises a couple serious issues. First, it clearly shows that the campaign is more expensive than anyone let on. Even if one accepts the government's line about there being two fiscal years involved, surely there is something questionable about spending \$2.3 million in the first three months of the second fiscal year. How much more do they plan to spend before a possible fall election?

Another issue is whether Premier Calvert was sincere about telling the world about Saskatchewan's greatness. The government admits "Phase 1" of the campaign was almost solely directed at local residents. And recently they admitted that the majority of "Phase 2" dollars were also spent in-province. Just when do they plan to get around to "telling the world"?

The CTF has a modest suggestion to avoid this kind of confusion in the future: When government decides to spend taxpayer dollars, they should be obligated to spell out exactly how they will spend it, when they will spend it, and what rate of return they expect on our investment.

The bottom line is the government is able to refute CTF claims of over-spending because they never told the truth about their plans in the first place. The only truth is that Wide Open Future is a cynical, deceptive waste of tax dollars. ■



“The million-dollar campaign has little to do with telling the world anything. Instead, the vast majority of the \$4.3 million was spent right here in Saskatchewan.”

## Government loan undermines CFL salary cap rules



**W**ith the CFL season now fully under way, now is as good a time as any to re-visit the issue of government loans and subsidies to professional sports teams.

Saskatchewan readers may remember that back in April the Saskatchewan government announced a \$2.8 million loan to the Saskatchewan Roughriders. The Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) and Liberal MLA Jack Hillson were alone in the wilderness opposing what is ultimately a government subsidy to a professional sports team.

It's funny how fiscally conservative sports fans turn into 'big government' advocates when it comes to their own teams. Anyone who is a fan can relate - we all want our teams to compete, and hopefully win championships. But of all the strong stands the CTF has taken in recent months, the most critical feedback we've received has been in response to our stated opposition to the provincial government's loan to the 'Riders.

In their lead editorial, Saskatoon *Star Phoenix* staff howled condemnation at the CTF (and yours truly) for voicing concerns. "A self-appointed guardian of taxpayers has stepped in uninvited to denounce the provincial government's decision to grant the Saskatchewan Roughriders football team a loan of \$2.8 million," they cried.

"Either MacLean hasn't been in Saskatchewan for very long or he just doesn't grasp the role the team fulfils in this province, but he's on third down and about 50 yards to go on this call," they continued.

What *Star Phoenix* writers and others who forcefully complained don't understand is that we oppose government subsidies for any business because, among other reasons, they ultimately cause harm to the industries they are trying to prop up. In the case of the 'Riders, government assistance to the team helps sustain failing league

salary cap rules. That means that more often than not the small-market 'Riders have an uphill battle against teams with bigger payrolls.

It's common knowledge that the CFL salary cap is a joke for team owners. Teams like the Edmonton Eskimos and the Toronto Argonauts have openly admitted to going over the \$2.44 million cap in an effort to win a championship. Others suggest that as many as five of the nine teams in the league go over, without any league sanctions.

Subsidizing the 'Riders with a sweetheart loan maintains the status quo. This result pleases CFL execs who are more interested in TV ratings and demographics than league parity.

Wouldn't it be nice to see how the 'Riders would stack up in a league of \$2.4 million teams?■



by David MacLean  
Saskatchewan  
Director

“  
Wouldn't  
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# Manitoba

## Do as I say, not as I *do*

The never-ending saga of the Kyoto Protocol continues. Last year, David Suzuki came to Winnipeg to spread his pro-Kyoto rhetoric and invite the Premier and his government to take the "David Suzuki Nature Challenge." A professed tree-hugging environmentalist Doer readily accepted the challenge.

So what exactly did the Premier commit to? There is a list of 10 ways to conserve nature which includes eat meat-free meals one day a week, support car-free alternatives and choose a fuel-efficient vehicle. The Nature Challenge website advises that an "SUV uses almost twice the fuel—and releases nearly twice the emissions—of a modern station wagon, although both seat the same number of passengers."

Now one would think that since the NDP government is on record supporting the Kyoto Protocol (regardless of how much it costs) they would be doing whatever possible to ensure the continued protection of our environment. One would also think that they would want to lead by exam-

“Now one would think that since the NDP is on record supporting the Kyoto Protocol .... that they would want to lead by example. It was recently revealed that 8 cabinet ministers, including the Premier, are driving SUV’s - those evil gas-guzzlers...”

ple. Unfortunately this is not the case. It was recently revealed that eight cabinet ministers, including the Premier, are driving SUV’s - those evil gas-guzzlers Suzuki’s Nature Challenge railed against.



by Adrienne Batra  
Manitoba Director

Ironically, even Conservation Minister Steve Ashton, is sporting around in a 2001 Chevy Blazer - this is the very same Minister that took a \$14,000 junket up north to look at the polar bears and

show the public areas where environmental change is harming wildlife. With one hand the NDP shakes their fists adamantly to save the polar bears and with the other hand they fuel up a fleet of SUV’s.

In response to the outrage over their blatant hypocrisy, the Premier stated “this is not a car I purchased. It’s a car owned by the public and given to the Premier.” Doer claims that he has to hold onto this vehicle until the odometer reaches 150,000 km and he does not want to

break the rules. Here’s a thought Mr. Premier: change the rule.

Reaction from the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism was priceless. Eric Robinson stated, “even in the western portions of the province, the roads are rough . . .” -- no kidding Sherlock. Roads are so bad in all parts of the province because it’s the government that he is a part of that hasn’t fixed them.

We’ve all heard the old adage “do as I say, not as I do” -- not only is the statement the epitome of hypocrisy, it is now the NDP’s new battlecry. This is the same group that stood on the taxpayer-funded soapbox to cram Kyoto down our throats as the only way to save the environment.

It was Thomas Jefferson that said, “what has been the effect of coercion? To make one half the world fools, and the other half hypocrites.”

We know who the hypocrites are, but who are the fools?■





## So the NDP won, now what?

It wasn't the massive landslide that so many predicted, but Gary Doer and *Today's NDP* effortlessly won a second majority government on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Their campaign slogan *Much Accomplished, More to do* means Manitobans can expect more spending in the areas of health care, education and social services – but there were also promises of modest tax relief.

The Doer government has committed to reduce the middle-income tax bracket to 13% by January 2005. It's a nice gesture to let taxpayers actually keep some of their hard earned money, however the NDP has not eliminated bracket creep so much of the savings will be eaten up by this stealth form of taxation.

On the property tax front, little was offered up. There will be tax rebates to the tune of \$9 million for agricultural land, a good starting point but your CTF would put this under the *More to do* category. Since school taxes on farmland are the biggest problem, the \$9 million tax credit will do very little in the long run to alleviate the already heavy property tax burden farmers shoulder. Business taxes are also falling, a one-point reduction in the small business tax rate save taxpayers around \$6 million and the corporate income tax rate will fall to 14.5%, but that is nothing new, it was already announced in the budget.

The spending front is where the NDP government will shine over

the next few years, from prizes for film makers to much needed medical equipment, there is a little bit for everyone. The following is a condensed version of where millions of your tax dollars will be going:

- Increase nursing grads to 900 and 15 new U of M medical school admissions - \$15.5 million
- Double the "Lighthouse" program for the inner city - \$240,000
- Update/expand arts and culture curriculum – \$4 million
- Annual prize for young filmmakers - \$10,000
- Construction of Kenaston underpass - \$10 million
- New MRI for Pan Am Clinic/Operating Funds - \$3 million
- Increase to post-grad scholarships/bursaries - \$4 million
- Six-bed brain injury clinic in Thompson - \$1 million
- Increase to pre-school reading program - \$1.25 million
- Enhancement of recreation trail networks - \$1 million

Manitoba politics will be interesting to watch over the next few years as Gary Doer has been given a clear mandate from the people to implement tax cuts. Your CTF will hold the government accountable to ensure that the NDP's *More to do* list does not keep growing making it impossible to pay for the much needed tax relief Manitobans deserve.■

“Since school taxes on farmland are the biggest problem, the \$9 million tax credit will do very little in the long run to alleviate the already heavy property tax burden farmers shoulder.”



# Time for an Economic Statement in Ontario

It is difficult to know what exactly to make of John Manley's content-free economic statement. The Finance Minister recently revealed economic growth would likely fall by 1% from earlier estimates yet he provided no revenue or spending forecasts. But thanks to a \$4-billion contingency fund, Ottawa remains on track to balance its budget.

What is certain is that Mr. Manley has raised the pressure on Ontario Finance Minister Janet Ecker to update the province's books. There is concern the Ontario government is sliding towards a deficit and it must either reassure taxpayers this is not so or, if it is, take action and reign in spending.

Ms. Ecker is bravely trying to downplay the problem by pointing to the government's four balanced budgets as proof they will stay on track and do it again. But it is a sorry fact that the Eves government has squandered the hard-won fiscal credentials built up by Mike Harris. When Mr. Harris said he would balance the budget (or cut taxes) taxpayers believed him.

Mr. Eves should have been able to tap into that reputation, but instead he abandoned a reformist agenda, delayed promised tax cuts, pushed spending up to new heights, and shunned selling government assets. Because of his record, the government no longer

**“The need for an economic update in Ontario is obvious. A slowing economy will yield lower tax revenues, perhaps half a billion dollars less.”**

has the credibility to talk its way out of deficit speculation. Particularly when the Dominion Bond Rating Service and Standard & Poor's both are predicting that a deficit is in the cards.

This is not to suggest the Eves government is fiscally irresponsible or that the budget will not balance. But a downward revision in federal economic projections puts this in doubt. The need for

an economic update in Ontario is obvious. A slowing economy will yield lower tax revenues, perhaps half a billion dollars less. SARS has pushed health-care spending up by more than \$1-billion. Moreover, Ottawa is unwilling to help pay for SARS expenses, and there is a strong possibility that \$770-million in federal transfers will never arrive because the money is contingent on Ottawa running a \$6-billion surplus.

The longer the government waits to tackle these

problems the harder the job will be. Governing is a lot like steering an ocean-steamship: Even with dark storm clouds gathering on the horizon it takes time to shift direction.

Should Ottawa fail to provide meaningful SARS assistance the likelihood of Ontario recording a deficit goes way up. A SARS deficit will wash with taxpayers only if the government has taken every effort to control its own spending. That includes fulfilling the \$2.2-billion asset

sale and finding \$800-million in operational savings the budget outlined. Running a deficit without acting on these would be unacceptable to taxpayers: It would signal the Eves government is not serious about balancing the books or controlling costs.

Of course, the alternative to presenting an update is to do nothing and continue to tell voters the

books are in order. This is a high-risk strategy. Back in 1996, the B.C. New Democratic government said its budget was balanced and quickly called an election. After the votes were counted and the NDP safely returned to office, they admitted the budget was, in truth, running a deficit.

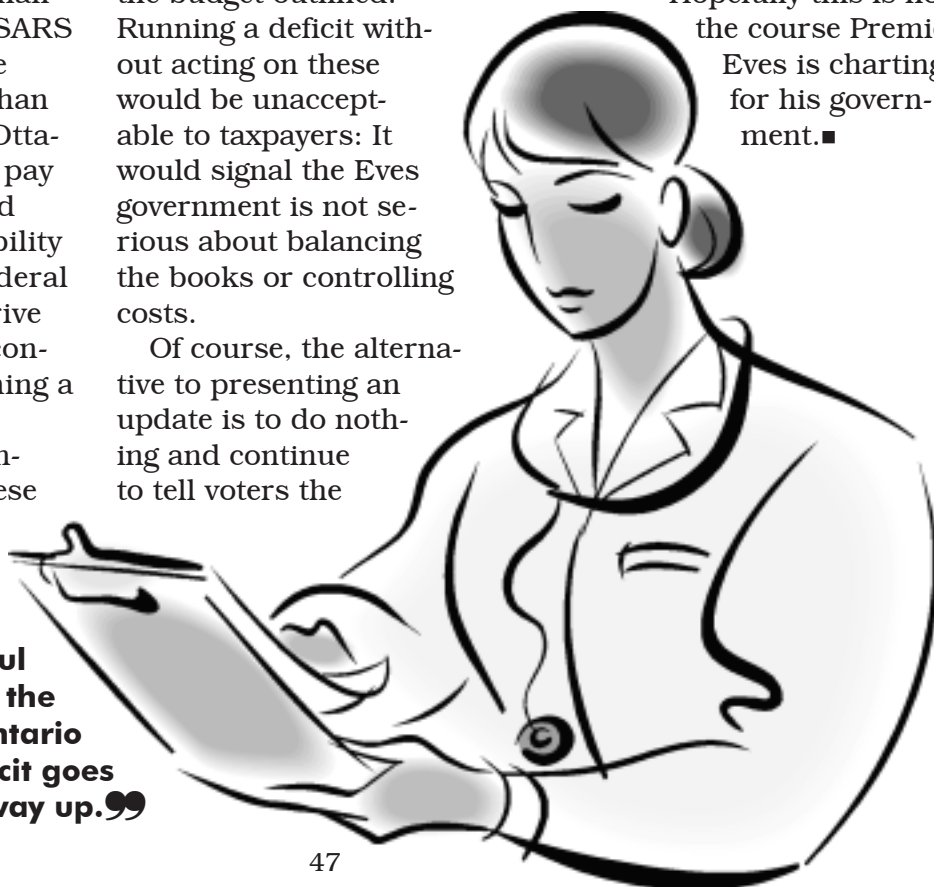
The Eves government might be tempted to tear a page from the fudge-it-budget playbook to get through the election. But if voters later discover the books are gushing red ink, they will react the same way B.C. voters did and punish the government at the next opportunity. Today, the B.C. NDP has two seats in that province's legislature.

Hopefully this is not the course Premier Eves is charting for his government. ■

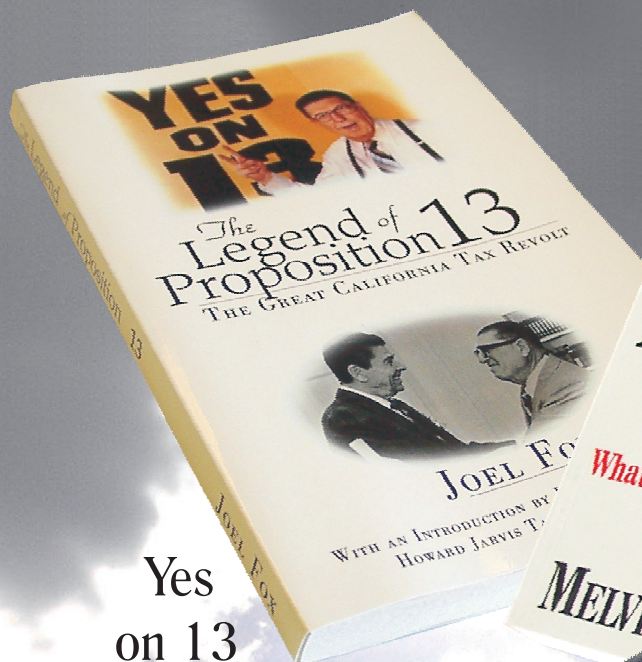


by John Williamson  
Ontario Director

**“Should Ottawa fail to provide meaningful SARS assistance the likelihood of Ontario recording a deficit goes way up.”**







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